COMPLETE ATLAS OF THE WORLD

THE DEFINITIVE VIEW OF THE EARTH

3rd EDITION



Penguin Random House

COMPLETE ATLAS OF THE WORLD





DK | Penguin Random House

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FOR THE THIRD EDITION

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A WORLD OF IDEAS:
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Introduction

The World at the beginning of the 21st Century would be a place of unimaginable change to our forefathers. Since 1900 the human population has undergone a fourfold growth coupled with an unparalleled development in the technology at our disposal. The last vestiges of the unknown World are gone, and previously hostile realms claimed for habitation. The advent of aviation technology and the growth of mass tourism have allowed people to travel further and more frequently than ever before.

Allied to this, the rapid growth of global communication systems mean that World events have become more accessible than ever before and their knock on effects quickly ripple across the whole planet. News broadcasts bring the far-flung corners of the world into everyone's lives, and with it, a view of the people and places that make up that region. The mysteries of the World that once fueled global exploration and the quest to discover the unknown are behind us; we inhabit a world of mass transportation, a world where even the most extreme regions have been mapped, a world with multi faceted view points on every event, a World of communication overload.

However, does this help us make sense of the World? It is increasingly important for us to have a clear vision of the World in which we live and such a deluge of information can leave us struggling to find some context and meaning. It has never been more important to own an atlas; the *DK Complete Atlas of the World* has been conceived to meet this need. At its core, like all atlases, it seeks to define where places are, to describe their main characteristics, and to locate them in relation to other places. By gathering a spectacular collection of satellite imagery and draping it with carefully selected and up-to-date geographic information, this atlas filters the World's data into clear, meaningful and user-friendly maps.

The World works on different levels and so does the *DK Complete Atlas of the World*. Readers can learn about global issues of many kinds or they can probe in a little further for the continental context. Delving even further they can explore at regional, national or even sub-national level. The very best available satellite data has been used to create topography and bathymetry that reveal the breathtaking texture of landscapes and sea-floors. These bring out the context of the places and features selected to appear on top of them.

This third edition of the *DK Complete Atlas of the World* incorporates hundreds of revisions and updates affecting every map and every page, distilling the burgeoning mass of information available through modern technology into an extraordinarily detailed and reliable view of our World.

Contents

The atlas is organized by continent, moving eastward from the International Date Line. The opening section describes the world's structure, systems and its main features. The Atlas of the World which follows, is a continent-by-continent guide to today's world, starting with a comprehensive insight into the physical, political, and economic structure of each continent, followed by detailed maps of carefully selected geopolitical regions.

WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

SOUTH AMERICA

AFRICA

EUROPE

Key to regional maps

Physical features

elevation

- 6000m / 19,686ft
- 4000m / 13,124ft
- 3000m / 9843ft
- 2000m / 6562ft
- 1000m / 3281ft
- 500m / 1640ft
- 250m / 820ft
- 100m / 328ft
- sea level
- below sea level

- elevation above sea level (mountain height)
- volcano
- pass
- elevation below sea level (depression depth)

- sand desert
- lava flow
- coastline
- reef
- atoll

sea depth

- sea level
- -250m / -820ft
- -2000m / -6562ft
- -4000m / -13,124ft

- seamount / guyot symbol
- undersea spot depth

Drainage features

- main river
- secondary river
- tertiary river
- minor river
- main seasonal river
- secondary seasonal river
- canal
- waterfall
- rapids
- dam
- perennial lake
- seasonal lake
- perennial salt lake
- seasonal salt lake
- reservoir
- salt flat / salt pan
- marsh / salt marsh
- mangrove
- wadi
- spring / well / waterhole / oasis

Ice features

- ice cap / sheet
- ice shelf
- glacier / snowfield
- summer pack ice limit
- winter pack ice limit

Graticule features

- lines of latitude and longitude / Equator
- Tropics / Polar circles
- degrees of longitude / latitude

Communications

- motorway / highway
- motorway / highway (under construction)
- major road
- minor road
- tunnel (road)
- main railroad
- minor railroad
- tunnel (railroad)
- international airport

Borders

- full international border
- undefined international border
- disputed de facto border
- disputed territorial claim border
- indication of country extent (Pacific only)
- indication of dependent territory extent (Pacific only)
- demarcation/ cease fire line
- autonomous / federal region border
- other 1st order internal administrative border
- 2nd order internal administrative border

Miscellaneous features

- ancient wall
- site of interest
- scientific station

Settlements

- built up area

settlement population symbols

- more than 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- fewer than 10,000

- country/dependent territory capital city
- autonomous / federal region / other 1st order internal administrative center
- 2nd order internal administrative center

Typographic key

Physical features

landscape features ...	*Namib Desert* *Massif Central* *ANDES*
headland	*Nordkapp*
elevation / volcano / pass	Mount Meru 4556 m
drainage features	*Lake Geneva*
rivers / canals spring / well / waterhole / oasis / waterfall / rapids / dam	*Mekong*
ice features	*Vatnajökull*

Physical features (continued)

sea features	*Golfe de Lion* *Andaman Sea* *INDIAN OCEAN*
undersea features ...	*Barracuda Fracture Zone*

Regions

country	ARMENIA
dependent territory with parent state	NIUE (to NZ)
autonomous / federal region	MINAS GERAIS
other 1st order internal administrative region	MINSKAYA VOBLASTS'
2nd order internal administrative region	Vaucluse
cultural region	New England

Settlements

capital city	BEIJING
dependent territory capital city	FORT-DE-FRANCE
other settlements ...	Chicago Adana Tizi Ozou Yonezawa Farnham

Miscellaneous

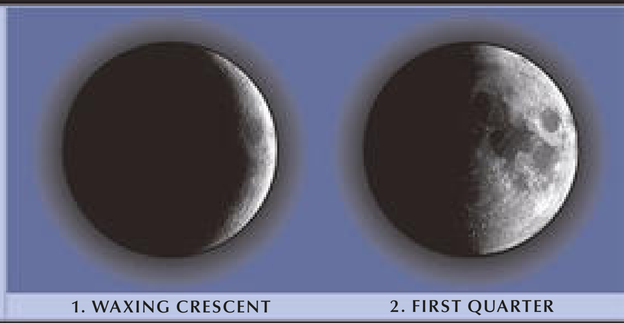
sites of interest / miscellaneous	Valley of the Kings
Tropics / Polar circles	*Antarctic Circle*

The Solar System

The Solar System consists of our local star, the Sun, and numerous objects that orbit the Sun – eight planets, five currently recognized dwarf planets, over 165 moons orbiting these planets and dwarf planets, and countless smaller bodies such as comets and asteroids. Including a vast outer region that is populated only by comets, the Solar System is about 9,300 billion miles (15,000 billion km) across. The much smaller region containing just the Sun and planets is about 7.5 billion miles (12 billion km) across. The Sun, which contributes over 99 percent of the mass of the entire Solar System, creates energy from nuclear reactions deep within its interior, providing the heat and light that make life on Earth possible.

THE MOON'S PHASES

As the Moon orbits Earth, the relative positions of Moon, Sun and Earth continuously change. Thus, the angle at which the Moon's sunlit face is seen by an observer on Earth varies in a cyclical fashion, producing the Moon's phases, as shown at right. Each cycle takes 29.5 days.



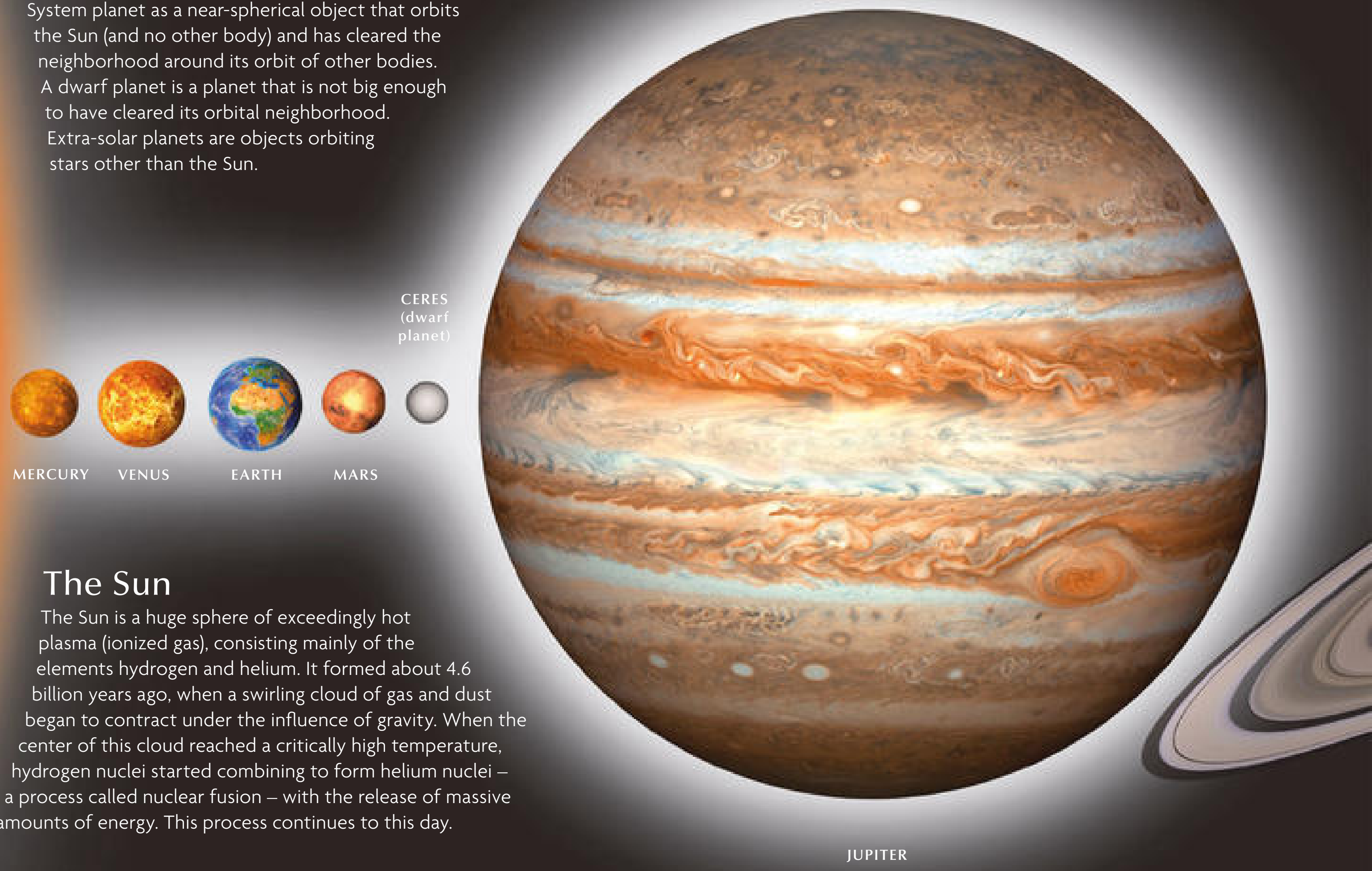

The Earth and Moon's relative sizes are clear in this long-range image from space.

The Moon

Earth's only satellite, the Moon, is thought to have formed 4.5 billion years ago from a cloud of debris produced when a large asteroid hit the young Earth. The Moon is too small to have retained an atmosphere, and is therefore a lifeless, dusty and dead world. However, although the Moon has only about 1 percent of the mass of the Earth, its gravity exerts an important influence on Earth's oceans, manifest in the ebb and flow of the tides.

What is a Planet?

The International Astronomical Union defines a Solar System planet as a near-spherical object that orbits the Sun (and no other body) and has cleared the neighborhood around its orbit of other bodies. A dwarf planet is a planet that is not big enough to have cleared its orbital neighborhood. Extra-solar planets are objects orbiting stars other than the Sun.

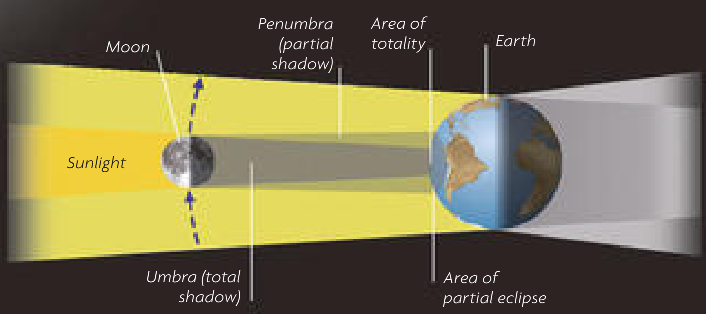


The Sun

The Sun is a huge sphere of exceedingly hot plasma (ionized gas), consisting mainly of the elements hydrogen and helium. It formed about 4.6 billion years ago, when a swirling cloud of gas and dust began to contract under the influence of gravity. When the center of this cloud reached a critically high temperature, hydrogen nuclei started combining to form helium nuclei – a process called nuclear fusion – with the release of massive amounts of energy. This process continues to this day.

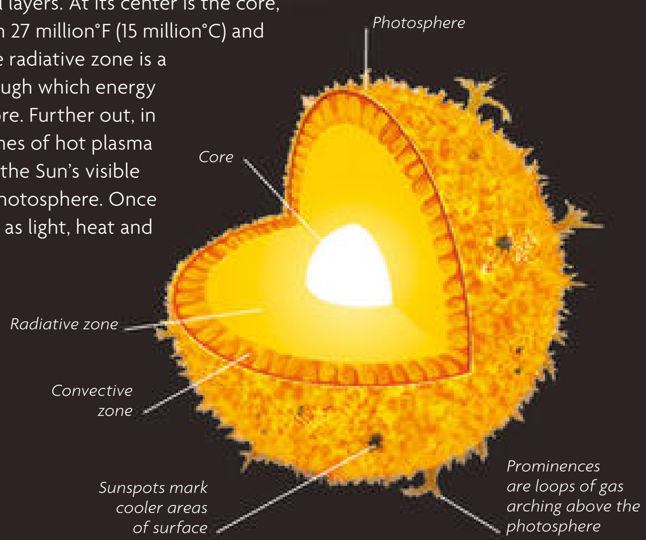
SOLAR ECLIPSE

A solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between Earth and the Sun, casting its shadow on Earth's surface. During a total eclipse *(below)*, viewers along a strip of Earth's surface, called the area of totality, see the Sun totally blotted out for a short time, as the umbra (Moon's full shadow) sweeps over them. Outside this area is a larger one, where the Sun appears only partly obscured, as the penumbra (partial shadow) passes over.



INSIDE THE SUN

The Sun has three internal layers. At its center is the core, where temperatures reach 27 million°F (15 million°C) and nuclear fusion occurs. The radiative zone is a slightly cooler region through which energy radiates away from the core. Further out, in the convective zone, plumes of hot plasma carry the energy towards the Sun's visible surface layer, called the photosphere. Once there, the energy escapes as light, heat and other forms of radiation.

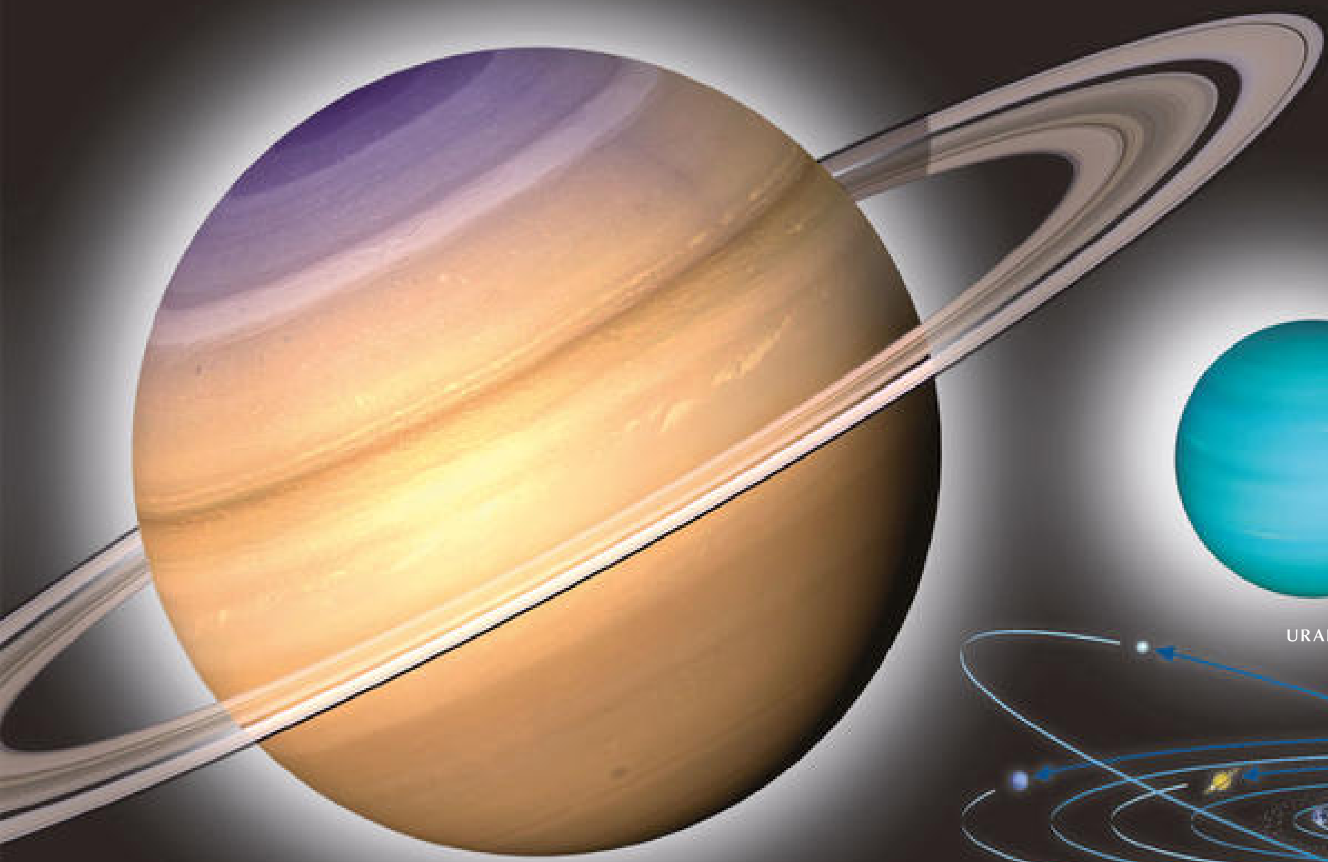




PLANETS									MAIN DWARF PLANETS		
	MERCURY	VENUS	EARTH	MARS	JUPITER	SATURN	URANUS	NEPTUNE	CERES	PLUTO	ERIS
DIAMETER	3029 miles (4875 km)	7521 miles (12,104 km)	7928 miles (12,756 km)	4213 miles (6780 km)	88,846 miles (142,984 km)	74,898 miles (120,536 km)	31,763 miles (51,118 km)	30,775 miles (49,528 km)	590 miles (950 km)	1432 miles (2304 km)	1429-1553 miles (2300-2500 km)
AVERAGE DISTANCE FROM THE SUN	36 mill. miles (57.9 mill. km)	67.2 mill. miles (108.2 mill. km)	93 mill. miles (149.6 mill. km)	141.6 mill. miles (227.9 mill. km)	483.6 mill. miles (778.3 mill. km)	889.8 mill. miles (1431 mill. km)	1788 mill. miles (2877 mill. km)	2795 mill. miles (4498 mill. km)	257 mill. miles (414 mill. km)	3675 mill. miles (5,915 mill. km)	6344 mill. miles (10,210 mill. km)
ROTATION PERIOD	58.6 days	243 days	23.93 hours	24.62 hours	9.93 hours	10.65 hours	17.24 hours	16.11 hours	9.1 hours	6.38 days	not known
ORBITAL PERIOD	88 days	224.7 days	365.26 days	687 days	11.86 years	29.37 years	84.1 years	164.9 years	4.6 years	248.6 years	557 years
SURFACE TEMPERATURE	-292°F to 806°F (-180°C to 430°C)	896°F (480°C)	-94°F to 131°F (-70°C to 55°C)	-184°F to 77 °F (-120°C to 25°C)	-160°F (-110°C)	-220°F (-140°C)	-320°F (-200°C)	-320°F (-200°C)	-161°F (-107°C)	-380°F (-230°C)	-405°F (-243°C)

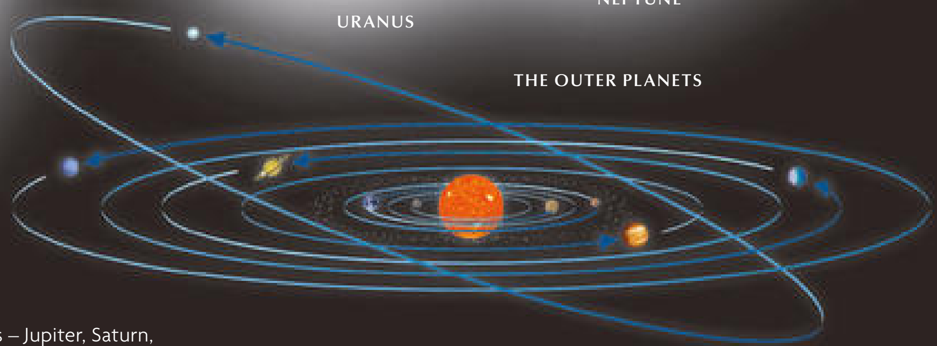
DWARF PLANETS

In 2006 a new type of dwarf planet was defined in an attempt to classify the numerous smaller bodies within the solar system that behave like planets physically but which are only a fraction of the size of the major planets. Currently, there are five dwarf planets recognized under this system, Ceres, Pluto, Haumea, Makemake, and Eris.

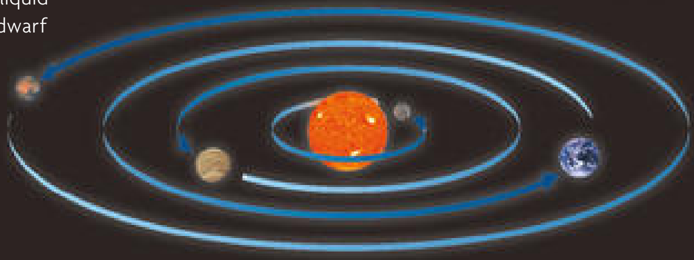


SATURN





THE OUTER PLANETS



THE INNER PLANETS

Orbits

All the Solar System's planets and dwarf planets orbit the Sun in the same direction and (apart from Pluto) roughly in the same plane. All the orbits have the shapes of ellipses (stretched circles). However in most cases, these ellipses are close to being circular: only Pluto and Eris have very elliptical orbits. Orbital period (the time it takes an object to orbit the Sun) increases with distance from the Sun. The more remote objects not only have further to travel with each orbit, they also move more slowly.

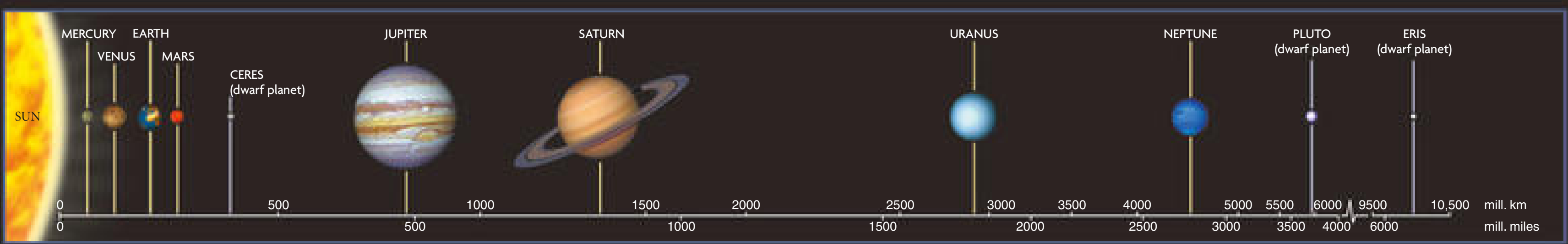
THE OUTER PLANETS

The four gigantic outer planets – Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune – consist mainly of gas, liquid and ice. All have rings and many moons. The dwarf planet Pluto is made of rock and ice.

THE INNER PLANETS

The four planets closest to the Sun – Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars – are composed mainly of rock and metal. They are much smaller than the outer planets, have few or no moons, and no rings.

AVERAGE DISTANCE FROM THE SUN



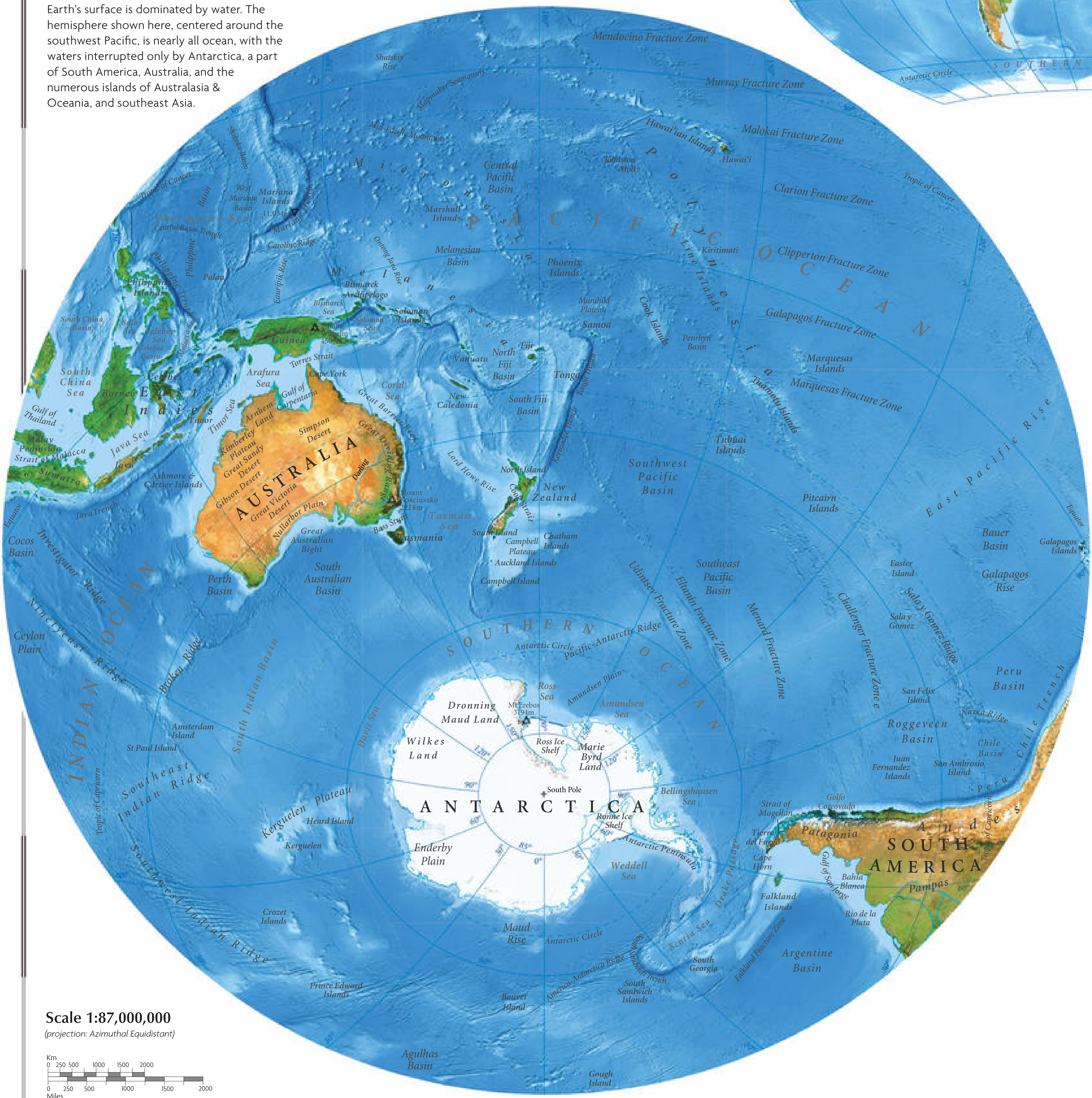
The Physical World

Earth's surface is constantly being transformed. Movements of the rigid tectonic plates that make up this surface are continuously, if slowly, shifting its landmasses around, while the land itself is constantly weathered and eroded by wind, water, and ice. Sometimes change is dramatic, the spectacular results of earthquakes or floods. More often it is a slow process lasting for millions of years. A physical map of the world represents a snapshot of Earth's ever-evolving architecture. The maps below and at right show the planet's whole surface, including variations in ocean depth as well as the mountain-rippled texture of Earth's continents.



THE WORLD'S OCEANS

Earth's surface is dominated by water. The hemisphere shown here, centered around the southwest Pacific, is nearly all ocean, with the waters interrupted only by Antarctica, a part of South America, Australia, and the numerous islands of Australasia & Oceania, and southeast Asia.



Scale 1:87,000,000

(projection: Azimuthal Equidistant)

Km 0 250 500 1000 1500 2000

Miles 0 250 500 1000 1500 2000



THE EARTH

DIAMETER AT EQUATOR: 7,926 miles (12,756 km)	**SURFACE AREA OF LAND COVERED BY ICE:** 6 million sq miles (15.6 million sq km)
DIAMETER FROM POLE TO POLE: 7,900 miles (12,714 km)	**SURFACE AREA COVERED BY MOUNTAINS:** 12 million sq miles (30 million sq km)
EQUATORIAL CIRCUMFERENCE: 24,901 miles (40,075 km)	**SURFACE AREA COVERED BY DESERTS:** 7.5 million sq miles (19 million sq km)
MASS: 5988 million billion tons (tonnes)	**SURFACE AREA COVERED BY FORESTS:** 17 million sq miles (44 million sq km)
VOLUME OF OCEANS: 324 million cu miles (1.36 billion cu km)	**MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF LAND:** 29,029 ft (8,848 m) (Mt. Everest, Himalayas)
SURFACE AREA OF OCEANS, SEAS AND LAKES: 140 million sq miles (361 million sq km)	**MAXIMUM DEPTH OF OCEANS:** 36,201 ft (11,034 m) (Mariana Trench, Pacific Ocean)
SURFACE AREA OF LAND: 57.5 million sq miles (149 million sq km)	

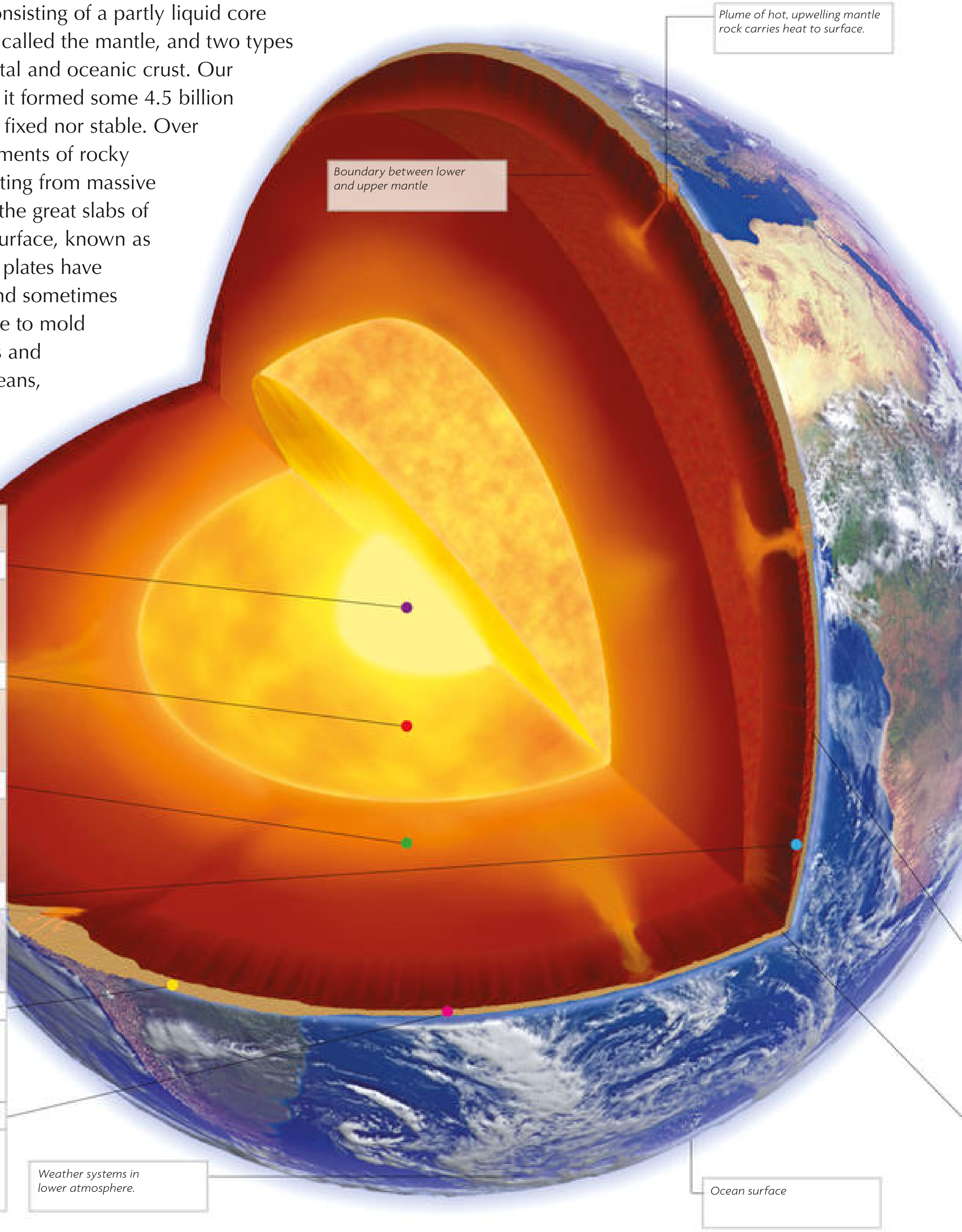
THE WORLD'S LAND

Most of the world's land is concentrated in a hemisphere centered around Europe. This concentration was even greater before tectonic movement opened up the Atlantic, splitting the Americas from Europe and Africa, some 170 million years ago.



The Structure of the Earth

Earth is an almost perfect sphere consisting of a partly liquid core overlain by a deep, semisolid layer, called the mantle, and two types of surface crust, known as continental and oceanic crust. Our planet has constantly evolved since it formed some 4.5 billion years ago. Its continents are neither fixed nor stable. Over the course of history, gradual movements of rocky material within Earth's mantle, resulting from massive internal flows of heat, have caused the great slabs of material that make up the planet's surface, known as tectonic plates, to shift around. The plates have moved, collided, joined together, and sometimes split apart. These processes continue to mold Earth's surface, causing earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, and creating oceans, mountain ranges, rift valleys, deep ocean trenches, and island chains.



EARTH FACTS & FIGURES

INNER CORE
COMPOSITION: Solid iron, with some nickel
DENSITY: 7.0 oz/in³ (12 g/cm³)
DEPTH: 3200-3963 miles (5150-6378 km) below surface
TEMPERATURE: 7200–8500°F (4000–4700°C)

OUTER CORE
COMPOSITION: Liquid iron and nickel
DENSITY: 5.7 oz/in³ (10 g/cm³)
DEPTH: 1907-3200 miles (2990-5150 km) below surface
TEMPERATURE: 6300–7200°F (3500–4000°C)

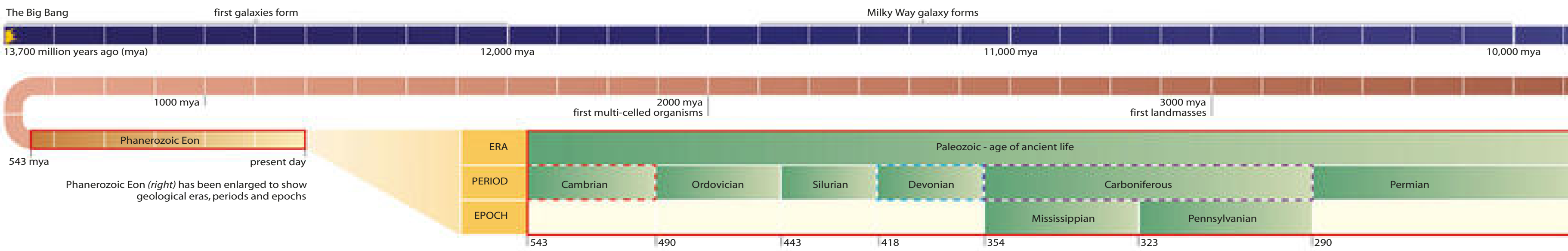
LOWER MANTLE
COMPOSITION: Semisolid high-density silicates
DENSITY: 3.2 oz/in³ (5.5 g/cm³)
DEPTH: 48-1907 miles (75-2990 km) below surface
TEMPERATURE: 1800–6300°F (1000–3500°C)

UPPER MANTLE
COMPOSITION: Semisolid rock, primarily peridotite
DENSITY: 2.0 oz/in³ (3.5 g/cm³)
DEPTH: 3–48 miles (5–75 km) below surface
TEMPERATURE: 1800°F (Less than 1000°C)

CONTINENTAL CRUST
COMPOSITION: Solid, relatively light rock such as granite
DENSITY: 1.6 oz/in³ (2.7 g/cm³)
DEPTH: 0–48 miles (0–75 km) below surface
TEMPERATURE: 1800°F (Less than 1000°C)

OCEANIC CRUST
COMPOSITION: Solid, relatively dense basaltic lava
DENSITY: 1.7 oz/in³ (3 g/cm³)
DEPTH: 2–7 miles (3–11 km) below surface
TEMPERATURE: 1800°F (Less than 1000°C)

FROM THE BIG BANG TO THE PRESENT DAY



Continental drift

Although Earth's tectonic plates move only a few inches (centimeters) each year, over hundreds of millions of years, its landmasses have moved many thousands of miles (kilometers), to create new continents, oceans, and mountain chains.



Cambrian 543–490 million years ago



Devonian 418–354 million years ago

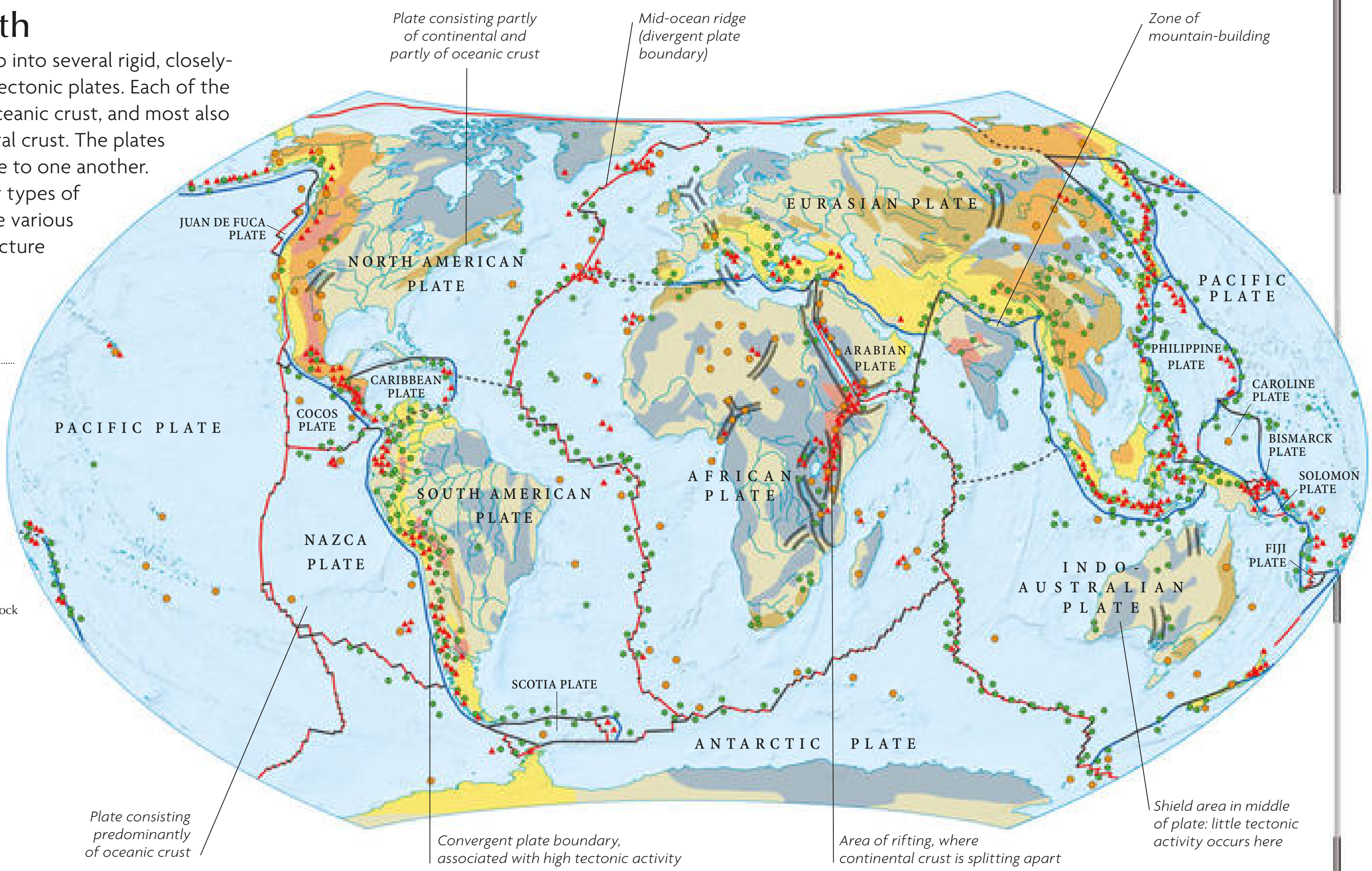


Carboniferous 354–290 million years ago



Dynamic Earth

Earth's surface is split up into several rigid, closely-fitting sections, called tectonic plates. Each of the plates contains some oceanic crust, and most also contain some continental crust. The plates constantly move relative to one another. Movements at different types of plate boundary produce various types of geological structure and activity.

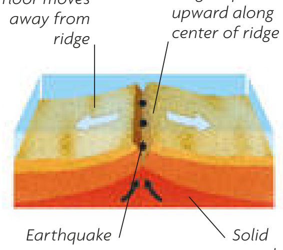


Tectonic activity and geological regions

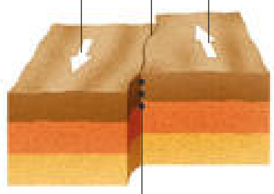
Plate boundaries
- Convergent
- Divergent
- Transform
- Uncertain

Tectonic activity
- volcanic zone
- earthquake zone
- hot spot
- rift valley
- Sedimentary cover
- Mesozoic & Cenozoic volcanic rock
- Cenozoic (65 mya – present)
- Mesozoic (252 mya – 65 mya)
- Paleozoic (543 mya – 252 mya)
- pre-Cambrian Shields

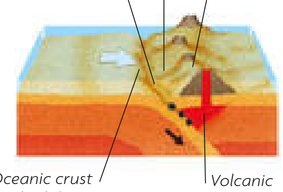
EFFECTS AT PLATE BOUNDARIES



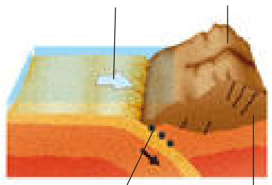
FORMATION OF A MID-OCEAN RIDGE



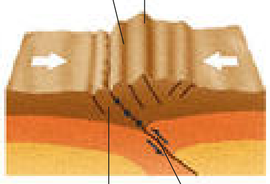
SLIDING PLATES (TRANSFORM BOUNDARY)



FORMATION OF ISLAND ARC AND OCEAN TRENCH



SUBDUCTION OF OCEANIC CRUST UNDER CONTINENTAL CRUST



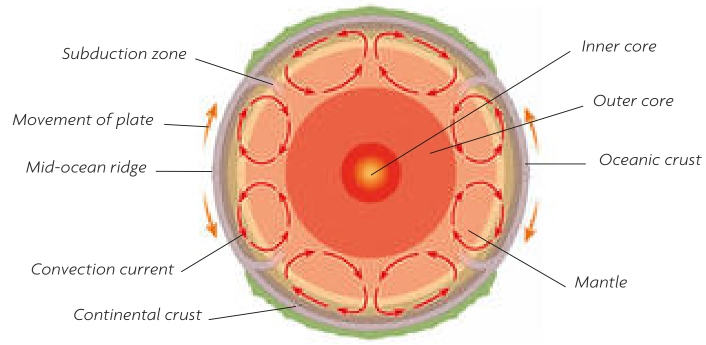
BLOCKS OF CONTINENTAL CRUST COLLIDE TO FORM MOUNTAINS

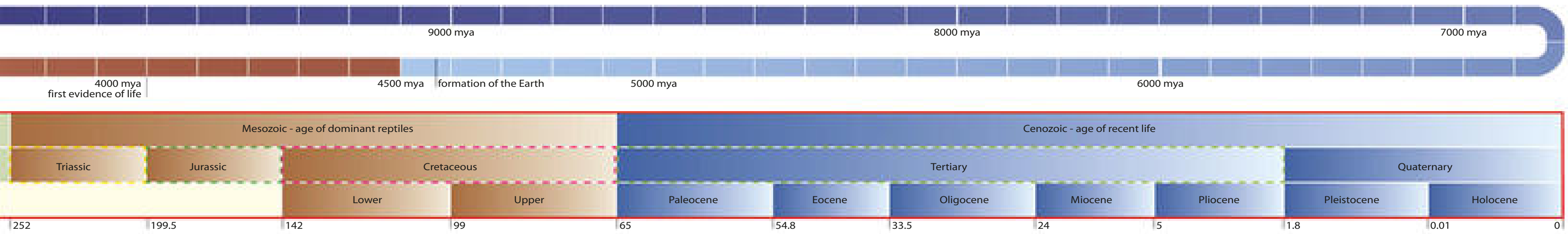
Boundary between upper mantle and crust

Sea floor made of oceanic crust

CONVECTION CURRENTS

Deep within Earth's core, temperatures may exceed 8100°F (4500°C). The heat from the core warms rocks in the mantle, which become semimolten and rise upwards, displacing cooler rock below the solid oceanic and continental crust. This rock sinks and is warmed again by heat given off from the core. The process continues in a cyclical fashion, producing convection currents below the crust. These currents lead, in turn, to gradual movements of the tectonic plates over the planet's surface.







Triassic 252–199.5 million years ago



Jurassic 199.5–142 million years ago



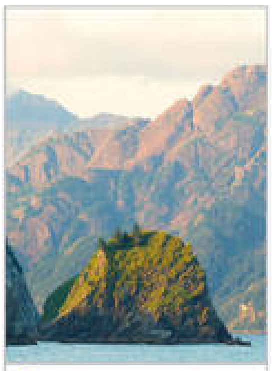
Cretaceous 142–65 million years ago



Tertiary 65–2 million years ago

Shaping the Landscape

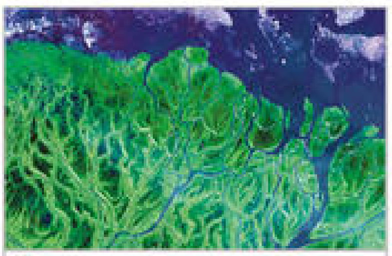
The basic material of Earth's surface is solid rock: valleys, deserts, soil, and sand are all evidence of the powerful agents of weathering, erosion and deposition that constantly transform Earth's landscapes. Water, whether flowing in rivers or grinding the ground in the form of glaciers, has the most clearly visible impact on Earth's surface. Also, wind can transport fragments of rock over huge distances and strip away protective layers of vegetation, exposing rock surfaces to the impact of extreme heat and cold. Many of the land-shaping effects of ice and water can be seen in northern regions such as Alaska *(below)*, while the effects of heat and wind are clearly visible in the Sahara *(far right)*.



FJORD
A valley carved by an ancient glacier and later flooded by the sea is called a fiord.

Ice and water

Some of the most obvious and striking features of Earth's surface are large flows and bodies of liquid water, such as rivers, lakes, and seas. In addition to these are landforms caused by the erosional or depositional power of flowing water, which include gullies, river valleys, and coastal features such as headlands and deltas. Ice also has had a major impact on Earth's appearance. Glaciers—rivers of ice formed by the compaction of snow—pick up and carry huge amounts of rocks and boulders as they pass over the landscape, eroding it as they do so. Glacially-sculpted landforms range from mountain *cirques* and U-shaped valleys to fiords and glacial lakes.



DELTA
A delta, such as that of the Yukon River (above), is a roughly triangular or fan-shaped area of sediment deposited by a river at its mouth.



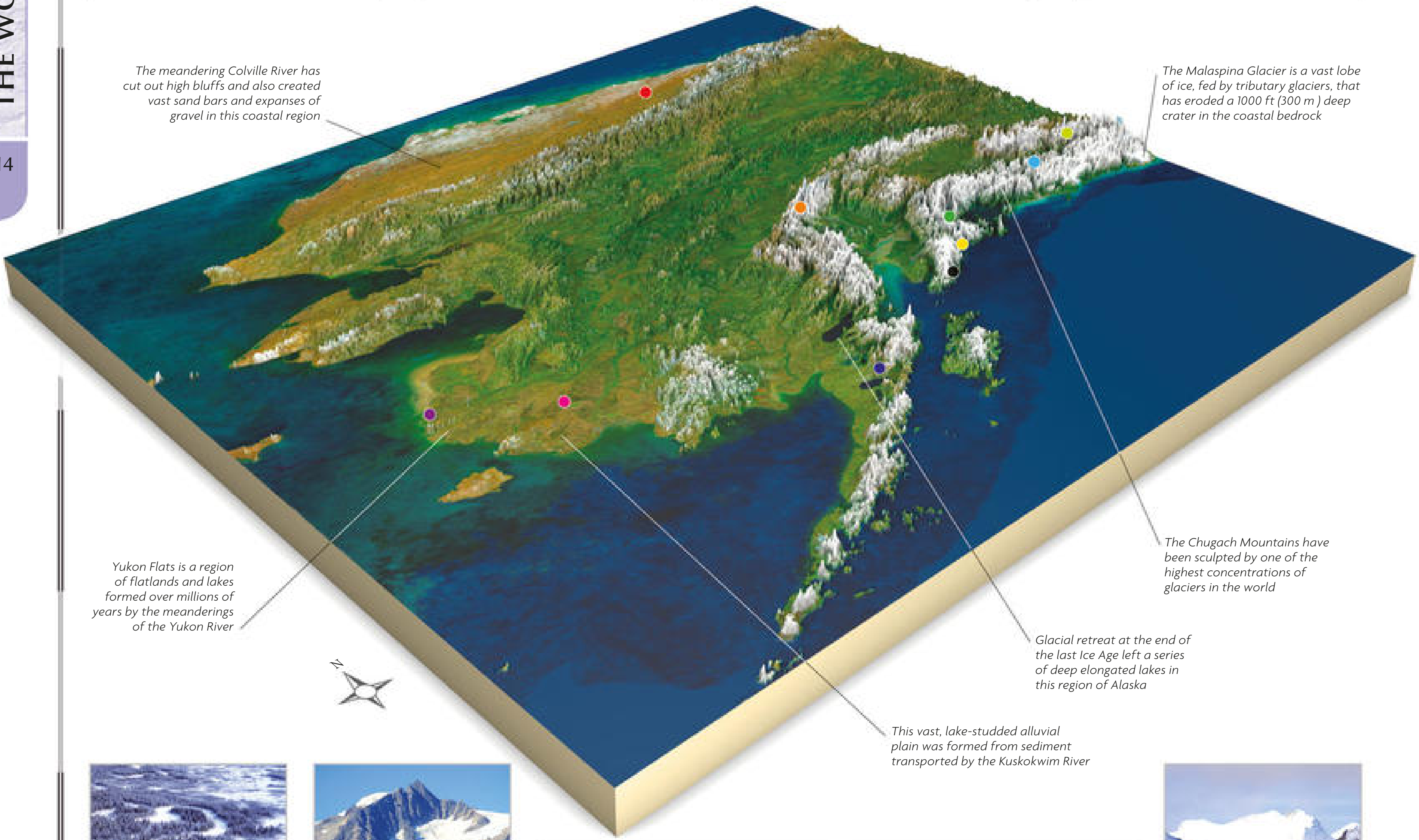
PINGO
These blister-like mounds, seen in regions of Arctic tundra, are formed by the upward expansion of water as it freezes in the soil.



TIDEWATER GLACIER
Glaciers of this type flow to the sea, where they calve (disgorge) icebergs. Like all glaciers, they erode huge amounts of rock from the landscape.

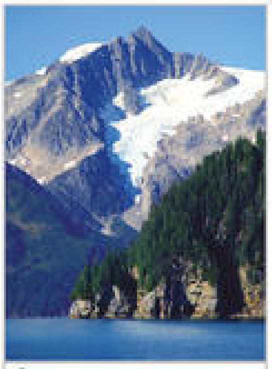


LANDSLIDE
The freezing and later thawing of water, which occurs in a continuous cycle, can shatter and crumble rocks, eventually causing landslides.





MEANDERING RIVER
In their lower courses, some rivers carve out a series of looping bends called meanders.



CIRQUE
A cirque is a hollow formed high on a mountain by glacial action. It may be ice-filled.



POSTGLACIAL FEATURES
Glacially-polished cliffs like these are a tell-tale sign of ancient glacial action. Other signs include various forms of sculpted ridge and hummock.



RIVER VALLEY
Over thousands of years, rivers erode uplands to form characteristic V-shaped valleys, with flat narrow floors and steeply-rising sides.



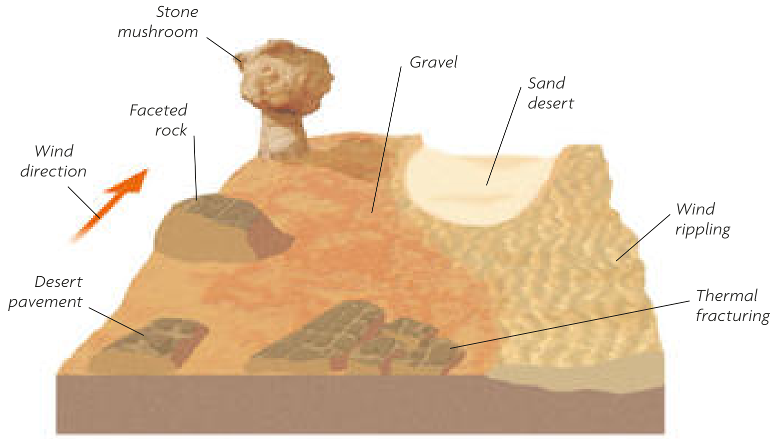
GULLIES
Gullies are deep channels cut by rapidly flowing water, as here below Alaska's Mount Denali.

Heat and wind

Marked changes in temperature—rapid heating caused by fierce solar radiation during the day, followed by a sharp drop in temperature at night—cause rocks at the surface of hot deserts to continually expand and contract. This can eventually result in cracking and fissuring of the rocks, creating thermally-fractured desert landscapes. The world's deserts are also swept and scoured by strong winds. The finer particles of sand are shaped into surface ripples, dunes, or sand mountains, which can rise to a height of 650 ft (200 m). In other areas, the winds sweep away all the sand, leaving flat, gravelly areas called desert pavements.

DESERT LANDSCAPES

In desert areas, wind picks up loose sand and blasts it at the surface, creating a range of sculpted landforms from faceted rocks to large-scale features such as *yardangs*. Individually sculpted-rocks are called ventifacts. Where the sand abrasion is concentrated near the ground, it can turn these rocks into eccentrically-shaped "stone mushrooms." Other desert features are produced by thermal cracking and by winds continually redistributing the vast sand deposits.



FEATURES OF A DESERT SURFACE



DUST STORM
A common phenomenon in some deserts, dust storms result from intense heating of the ground creating strong convection currents.



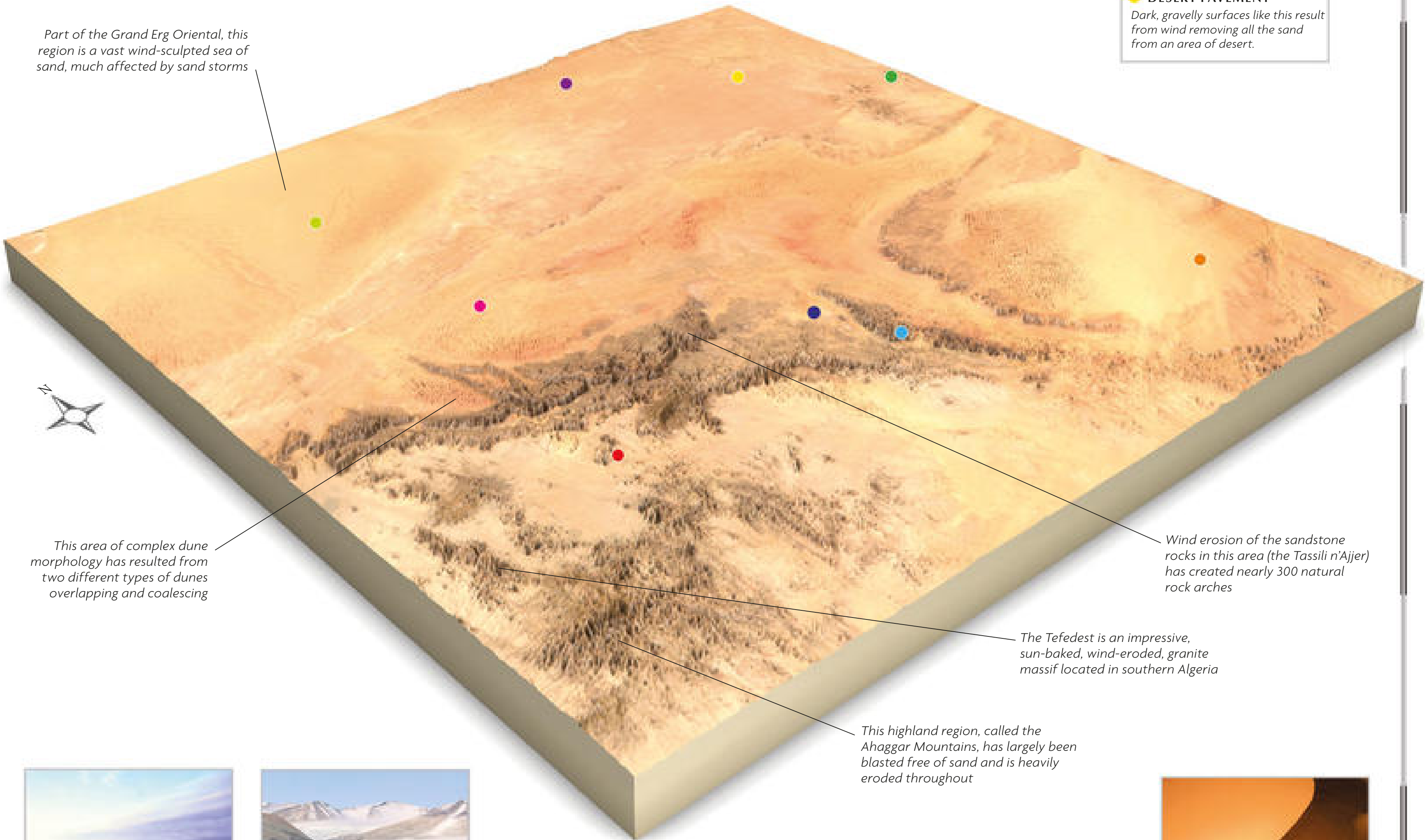
LOESS DEPOSIT
A deposit of silt that has been transported over long distances by wind, then compacted. Loess is found in a few marginal areas of the Sahara.



YARDANG
A yardang is a ridge of rock produced by wind erosion, usually in a desert. Large yardangs can be many miles long.



DESERT PAVEMENT
Dark, gravelly surfaces like this result from wind removing all the sand from an area of desert.





TRANSVERSE DUNES
This series of parallel sand ridges lies at right angles to the prevailing wind direction.



VENTIFACT
A ventifact is a rock that has been heavily sculpted and abraded by wind-driven sand.



CRACKED DESERT
Intensely heated and dried-out desert areas often developed geometrically-patterned surface cracking.



WADI
Wadis are dried out stream beds, found in some desert regions, that carry water only during occasional periods of heavy rain.



BARCHAN DUNE
This arc-shaped type of dune migrates across the desert surface, blown by the wind.

The World's Oceans

Two-thirds of Earth's surface is covered by the five oceans: the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern (or Antarctic), and Arctic. The basins that form these oceans, and the ocean floor landscape, have formed over the past 200 million years through volcanic activity and gradual movements of the Earth's crust. Surrounding the continents are shallow flat regions called continental shelves. These shelves extend to the continental slope, which drops steeply to the ocean floor. There, vast submarine plateaus, known as abyssal plains, are interrupted by massive ridges, chains of seamounts, and deep ocean trenches.

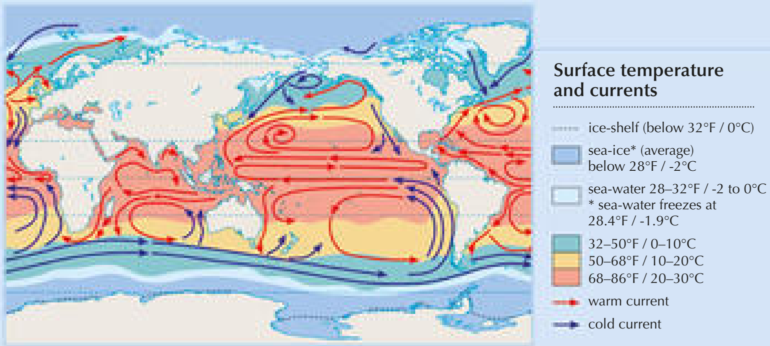




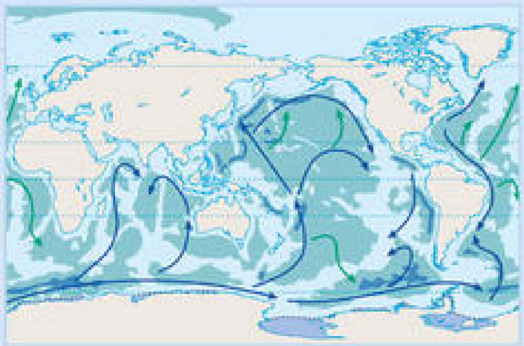


Ocean currents

Surface currents are driven by winds and by the Earth's rotation. Together these cause large circular flows of water over the surface of the oceans, called gyres. Deep sea currents are driven by changes in the salinity or temperature of surface water. These changes cause the water to become denser and sink, forcing horizontal movements of deeper water.

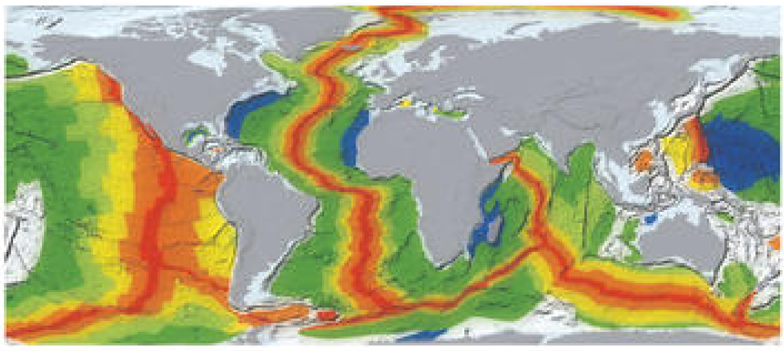


SURFACE TEMPERATURES AND CURRENTS


DEEP SEA TEMPERATURES AND CURRENTS

The ocean floor

The ages of seafloor rocks increase in parallel bands outward from central ocean ridges. At these ridges, new oceanic crust is continuously created from lava that erupts from below the seafloor and then cools to form solid rock. As this new crust forms, it gradually pushes older crust away from the ridge.

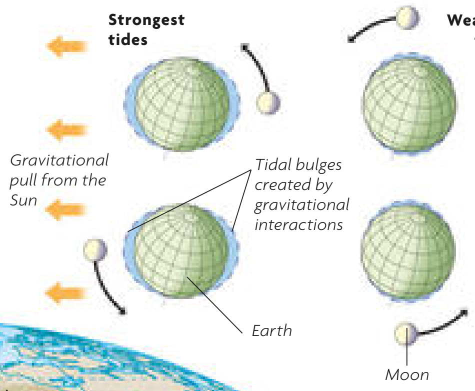


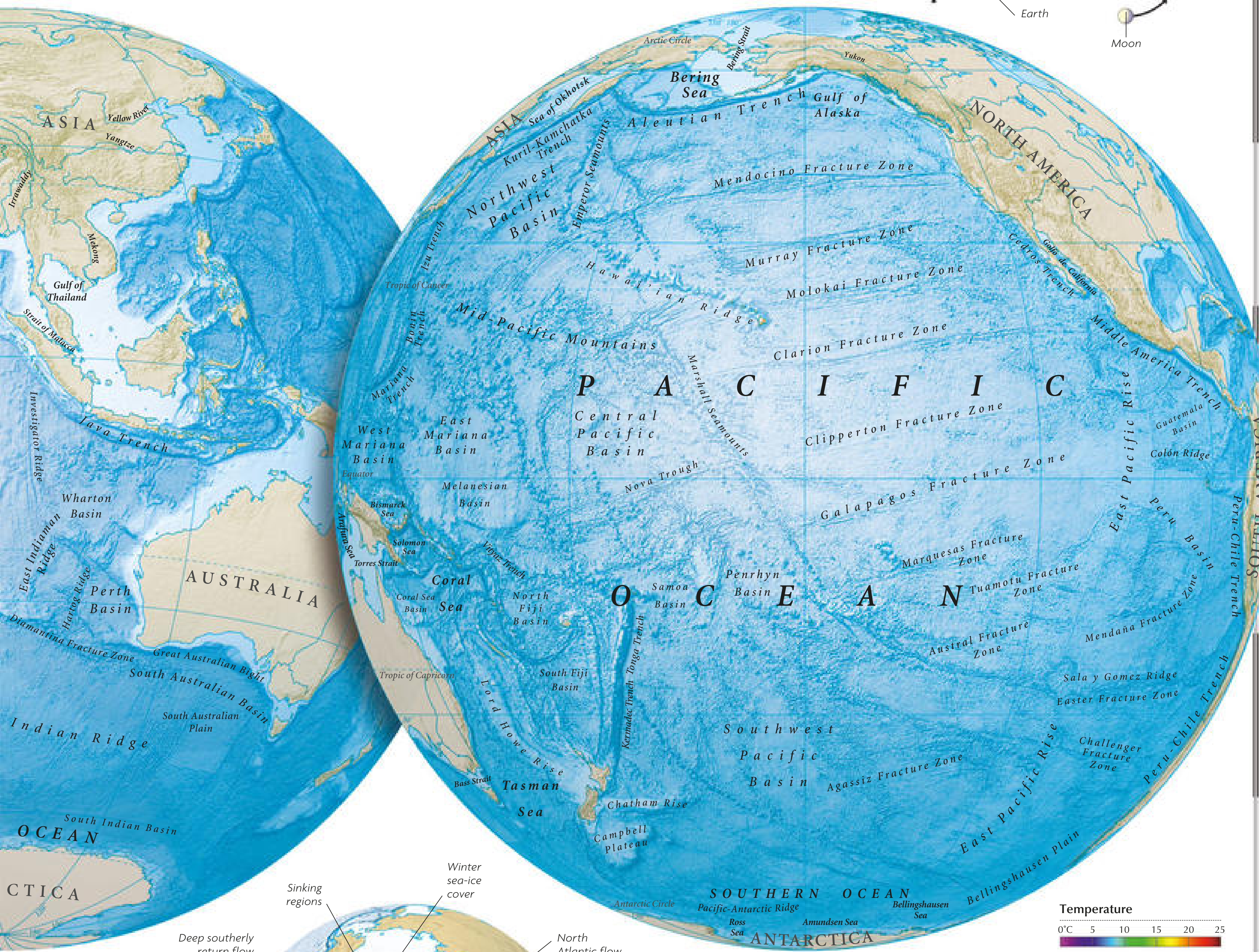
Ages of the ocean crust

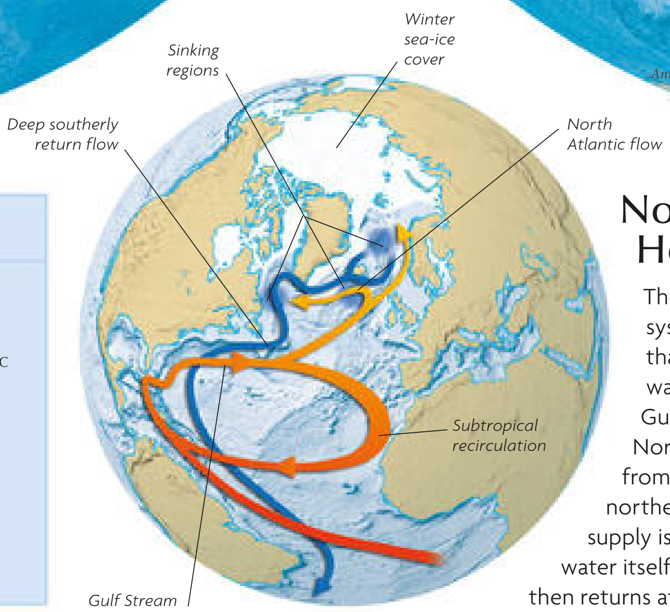
- 0–5 million years
- 5–21 million years
- 21–38 million years
- 38–65 million years
- 65–140 million years
- 140–190 million years
- continental shelf
- no data

Tides

Tides are caused by gravitational interactions between the Earth, Moon, and Sun. The strongest tides occur when the three bodies are aligned and the weakest when the Sun and Moon align at right angles







Deep sea temperature and currents

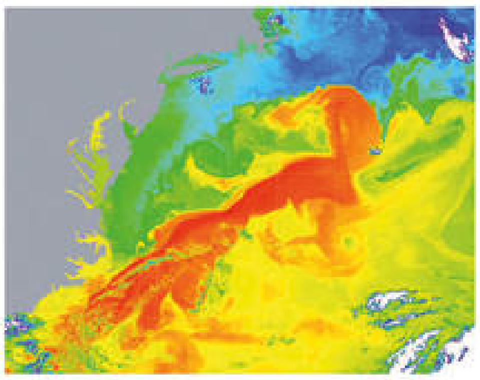
- ice-shelf (below 32°F / 0°C)
- sea-water 28–32°F / -2 to 0°C (below 16,400 ft / 5000 m)
- sea-water 32–41°F / 0–5°C (below 13,120 ft / 4000 m)
- primary currents
- secondary currents

North Atlantic Heat Conveyor

The North Atlantic Heat Conveyor is a system of heat flows in the Atlantic that keeps western Europe relatively warm. Surface currents, notably the Gulf Stream and its extension, the North Atlantic Drift, carry warm water from the tropical Atlantic into the northeastern Atlantic. There, the heat they supply is released, warming Europe, while the water itself cools and sinks. This cold water then returns at depth towards the equator.

Temperature

0°C	5	10	15	20	25
32°F	41	50	59	68	77

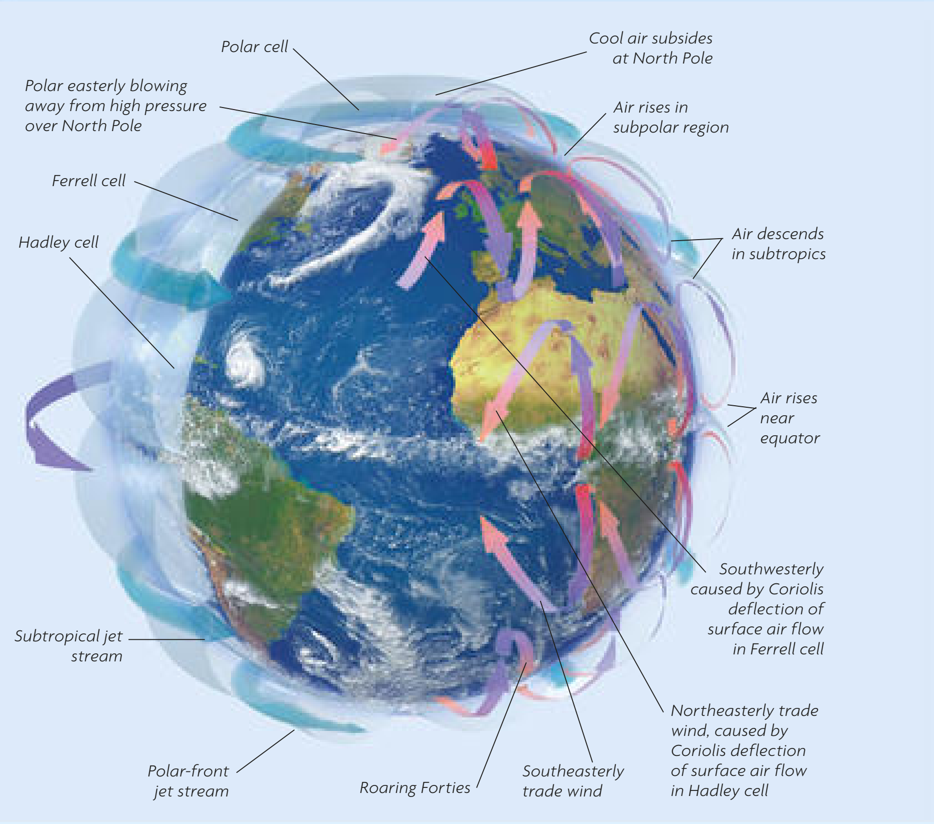


A key part of the North Atlantic Heat Conveyor is the warm Gulf Stream, visible as the dark red ribbon in this Atlantic sea-surface temperature map.

Global Climate

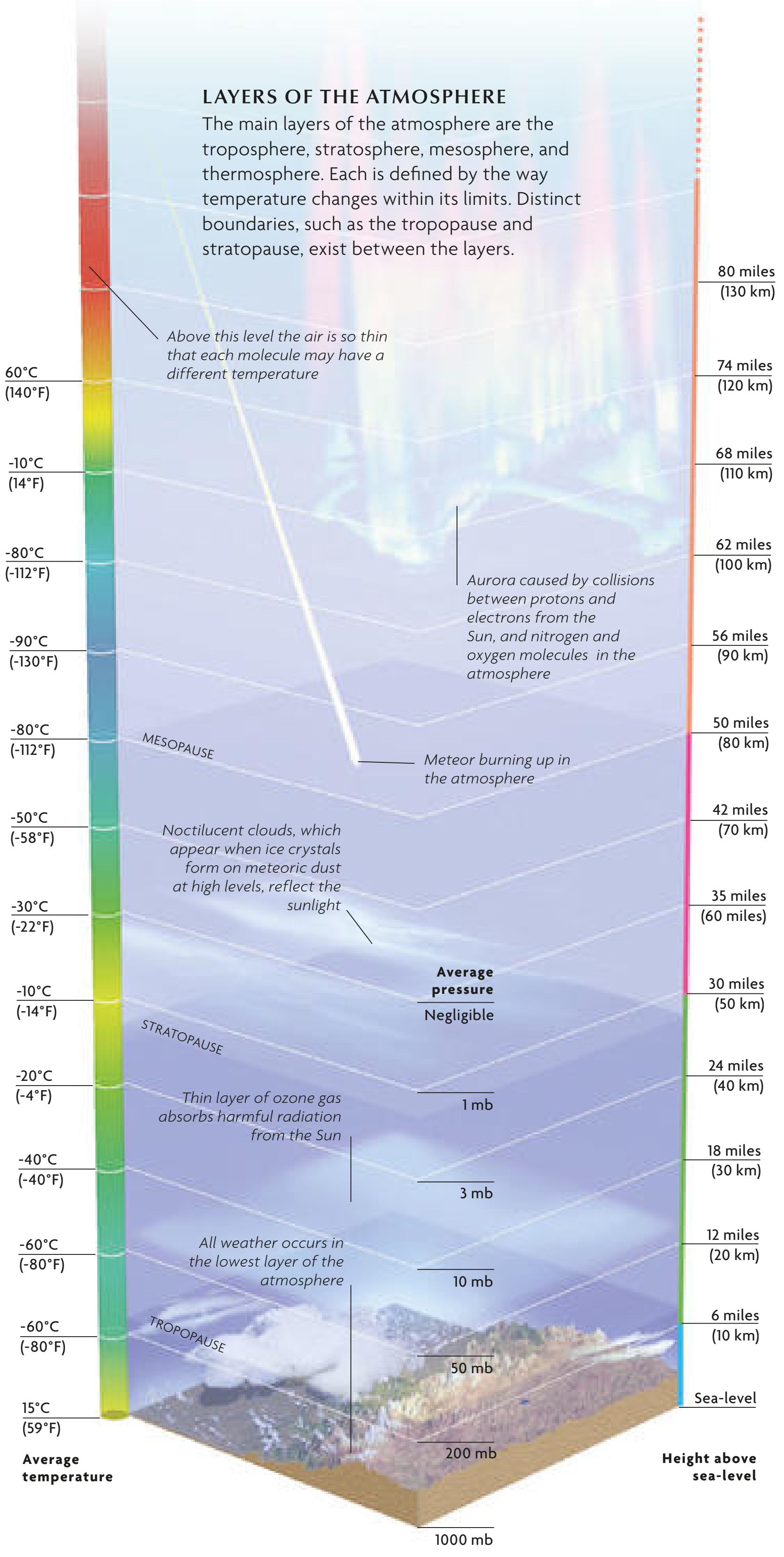
The climates of different regions on Earth are the typical long-term patterns of temperature and humidity in those regions. By contrast, weather consists of short-term variations in factors such as wind, rainfall, and sunshine. Climates are determined primarily by the Sun's variable heating of different parts of Earth's atmosphere and oceans, and by Earth's rotation. These factors drive the ocean currents and prevailing winds, which in turn redistribute heat energy and moisture between the equator and poles, and between sea and land. Most scientists think that major changes are currently occurring in global climate due to the effects of rising carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.

Global air circulation



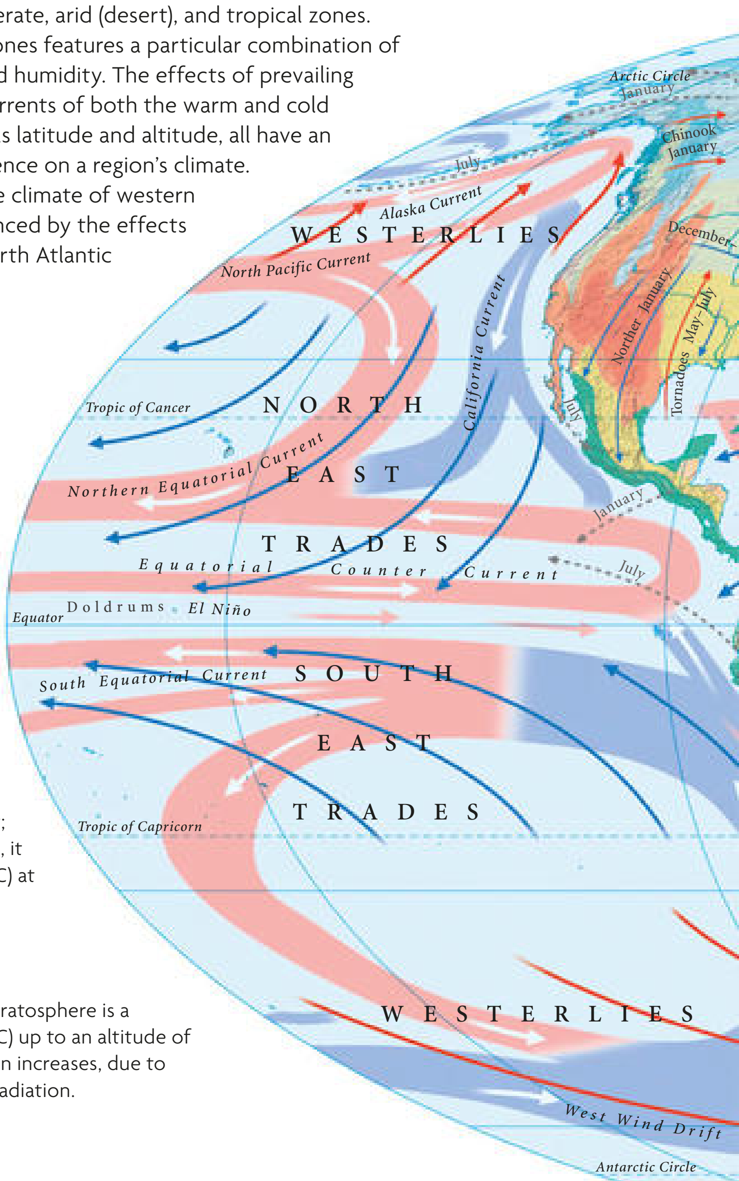
The atmosphere

Earth's atmosphere is a giant ocean of air that surrounds the planet. It extends to a height of about 625 miles (1000 km) but has no distinct upper boundary. The Sun's rays pass through the atmosphere and warm Earth's surface, causing the air to move and water to evaporate from the oceans.



Winds, currents, and climate

Earth has 12 climatic zones, ranging from ice-cap and tundra to temperate, arid (desert), and tropical zones. Each of these zones features a particular combination of temperature and humidity. The effects of prevailing winds, ocean currents of both the warm and cold variety, as well as latitude and altitude, all have an important influence on a region's climate. For example, the climate of western Europe is influenced by the effects of the warm North Atlantic Drift current.



THERMOSPHERE
This layer extends from a height of 50 miles (80 km) upward. Its temperature increases rapidly above a height of 60 miles (90 km), due to absorption of highly energetic solar radiation.

MESOSPHERE
The temperature of the lower part of this layer stays constant with height; but above 35 miles (55 km), it drops, reaching -112°F (80°C) at the mesopause.

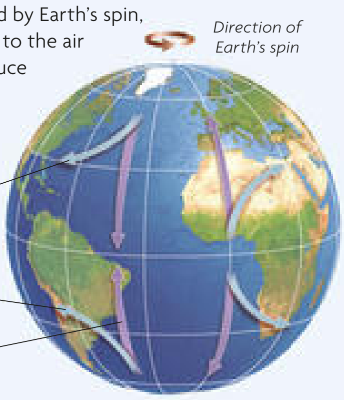
STRATOSPHERE
The temperature of the stratosphere is a fairly constant -76° F (-60°C) up to an altitude of about 12 miles (20 km), then increases, due to absorption of ultraviolet radiation.

TROPOSPHERE
This layer extends from Earth's surface to a height of about 10 miles (16 km) at the equator and 5 miles (8 km) at the poles. Air temperature in this layer decreases with height.

Air moves within giant atmospheric cells called Hadley, Ferrell, and polar cells. These cells are caused by air being warmed and rising in some latitudes, such as near the equator, and sinking in other latitudes. This north-south circulation combined with the Coriolis effect *(below)* produces the prevailing surface winds.

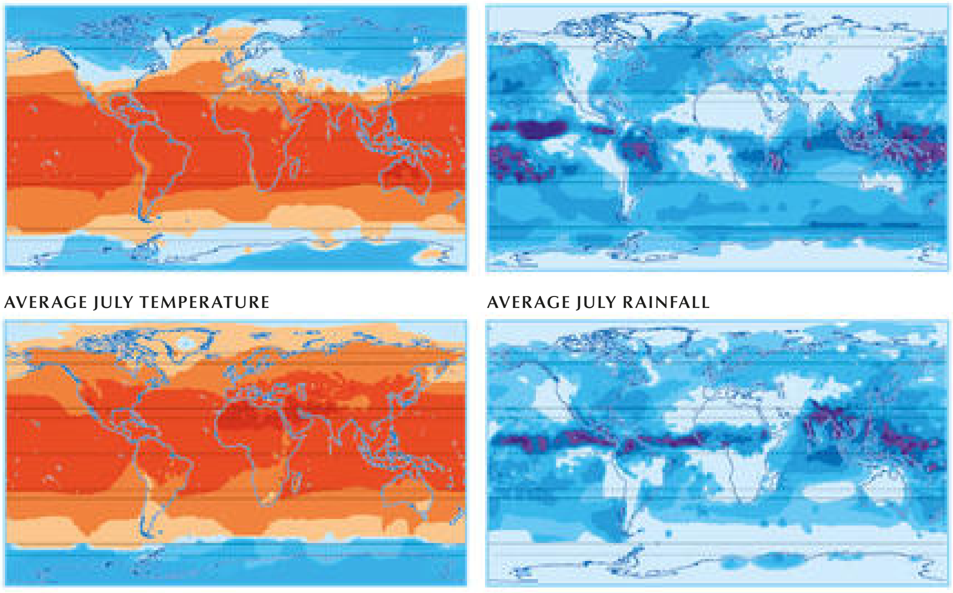
THE CORIOLIS EFFECT

Air moving over Earth's surface is deflected in a clockwise direction in the northern hemisphere and counterclockwise in the south. Known as the Coriolis effect, and caused by Earth's spin, these deflections to the air movements produce winds such as the trade winds and westerlies.



Temperature and precipitation

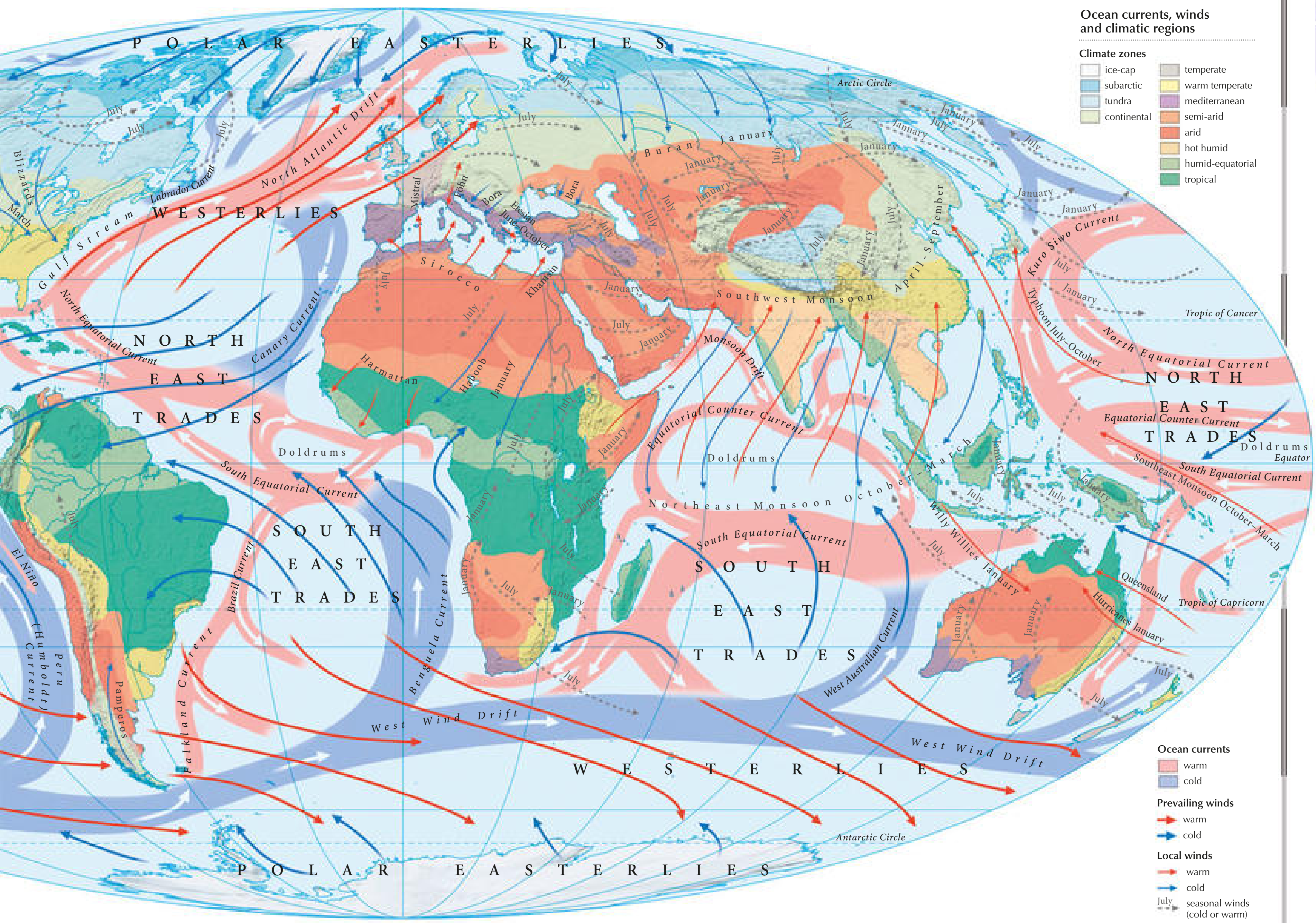
The world divides by latitude into three major temperature zones: the warm tropics, the cold polar regions; and an intermediate temperate zone. In addition, temperature is strongly influenced by height above sea level. Precipitation patterns are related to factors such as solar heating, atmospheric pressure, winds, and topography. Most equatorial areas have high rainfall, caused by moist air being warmed and rising, then cooling to form rain clouds. In areas of the subtropics and near the poles, sinking air causes high pressure and low precipitation. In temperate regions rainfall is quite variable.



- below -22°F (-30°C)
- -22 to -4°F (-30 to - 20°C)
- -4 to 14°F (-20 to - 10°C)
- 14 to 32°F (-10 to 0°C)
- 32 to 50°F (0 to 10°C)
- 50 to 68°F (10 to 20°C)
- 68 to 86°F (20 to 30°C)
- above 86°F (30°C)

- 0–1 in (0–25 mm)
- 1–2 in (25–50 mm)
- 2–4 in (50–100 mm)
- 4–8 in (100–200 mm)
- 8–12 in (200–300 mm)
- 12–16 in (300–400 mm)
- 16–20 in (400–500 mm)
- above 20 in (500 mm)

Ocean currents, winds and climatic regions



Climate zones
- ice-cap
- subarctic
- tundra
- continental
- temperate
- warm temperate
- mediterranean
- semi-arid
- arid
- hot humid
- humid-equatorial
- tropical

Ocean currents
- warm
- cold

Prevailing winds
- warm
- cold

Local winds
- warm
- cold
- July seasonal winds (cold or warm)

Life on Earth

A unique combination of an oxygen-rich atmosphere and plentiful surface water is the key to life on Earth, where few areas have not been colonized by animals, plants, or smaller life-forms. An important determinant of the quantity of life in a region is its level of primary production—the amount of energy-rich substances made by organisms living there, mainly through the process of photosynthesis. On land, plants are the main organisms responsible for primary production; in water, algae fulfil this role. These primary producers supply food for animals. Primary production is affected by climatic, seasonal, and other local factors. On land, cold and aridity restrict the quantity of life in a region, whereas warmth and regular rainfall allow a greater diversity of species. In the oceans, production is mainly affected by sunlight levels, which reduce rapidly with depth, and by nutrient availability.



POLAR REGIONS
Ice restricts life in these regions to just a few species, such as polar bears in the Arctic.

Biogeographical regions

Earth's biogeographical regions, or biomes, are communities where certain species of plants and animals coexist within the constraints of particular climatic conditions. They range from tundra to various types of grassland, forest, desert, and marine biomes such as coral reefs. Factors like soil richness, altitude, and human activities such as deforestation can affect the local distribution of living species in each biome.



TEMPERATE GRASSLAND
Also known as steppe or prairie, grassland of this type occurs mainly in the northern hemisphere and in South America (the Pampas).



NEEDLELEAF FOREST
These vast forests of coniferous trees cover huge areas of Canada, Siberia, and Scandinavia.



TROPICAL GRASSLAND
This type of grassland is widespread in Africa and South America, supporting large numbers of grazing animals and their predators.

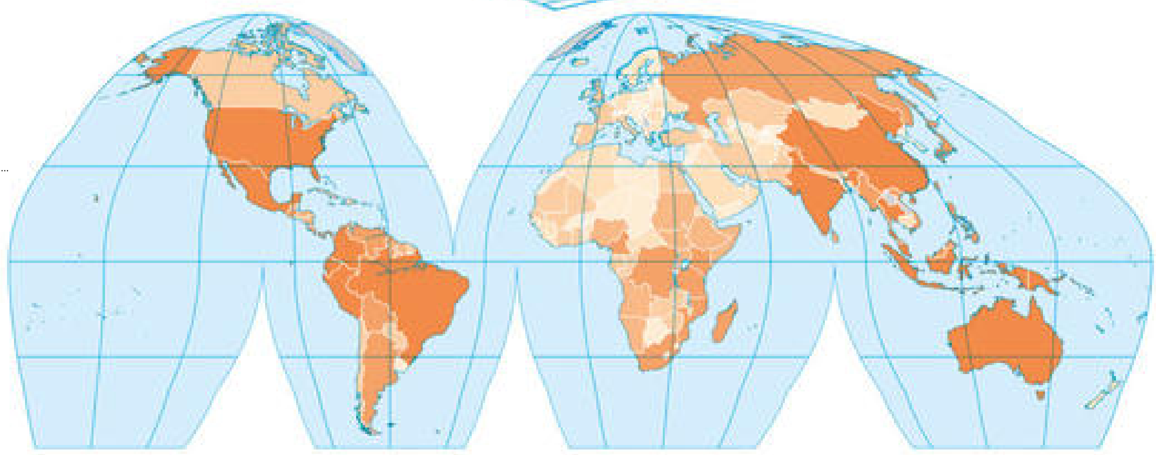


Animal diversity

The number of animal species, and the range of genetic diversity within the populations of those species, determines the level of animal diversity within each country or other region of the world. The animals that are endemic to a region—that is, those found nowhere else on the planet—are also important in determining its level of animal diversity.

Number of animal species per country

- more than 2,000
- 1000–1999
- 700–999
- 400–699
- 200–399
- 100–199
- 0–99
- data not available





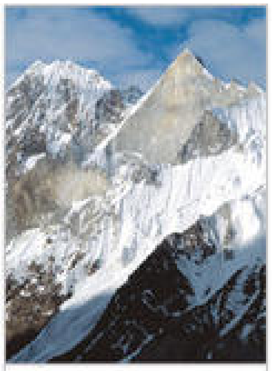
TUNDRA
With little soil and large areas of frozen ground, the tundra is largely treeless, though briefly clothed by small flowering plants in summer.



TEMPERATE RAIN FOREST
Occurring in mid-latitudes in areas of high rainfall, these forests may be predominantly coniferous or mixed with deciduous species.



CORAL REEFS
Occurring in clear tropical waters, coral reefs support an extraordinary diversity of species, especially fish and many types of invertebrate.



MOUNTAINS
In high mountain areas only a few hardy species of plant will grow above the tree-line.



TROPICAL RAINFOREST
Characterized by year-round warmth and high rainfall, tropical rainforests contain the highest diversity of plant and animal species on Earth.



HOT DESERT
Only a few highly adapted species can survive in hot deserts, which occur mainly in the tropics.



OPEN OCEAN
Earth's largest biome, the oceans are home to a vast diversity of fish, mammals, invertebrates, and algae.

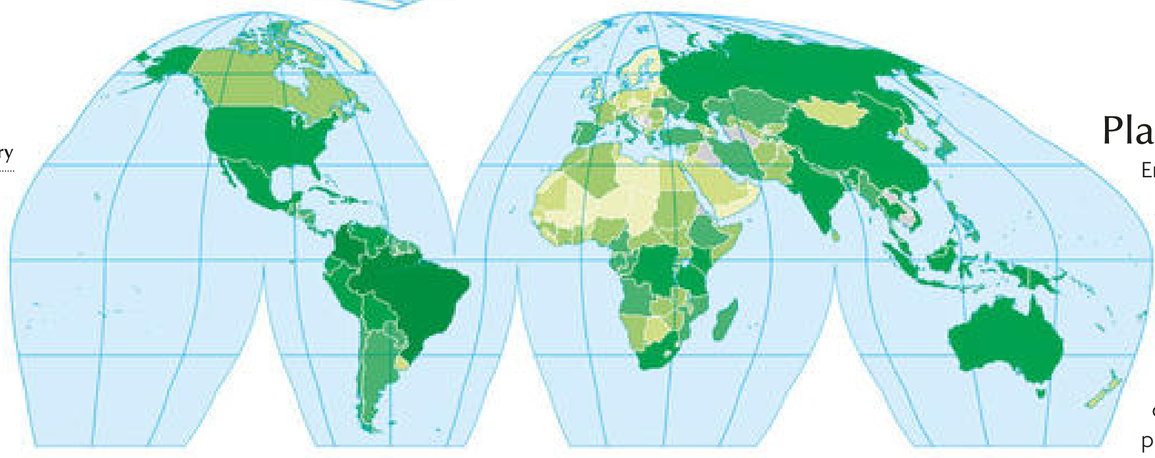


World biomes
(continued)

- tropical and subtropical coniferous
- tropical and subtropical dry broadleaf
- tropical and subtropical wet broadleaf
- tropical and subtropical grassland/savanah
- montane grassland
- mangrove
- wetland

Number of plant species per country

- more than 50,000
- 7000–49,999
- 3000–6999
- 2000–2999
- 1000–1999
- 600–999
- 0–599
- data not available



Plant diversity

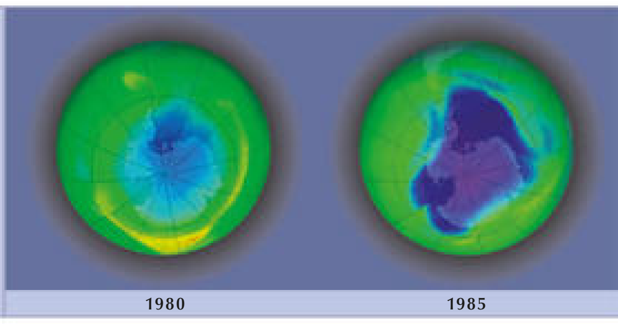
Environmental conditions, particularly climate, soil type, and the extent of competition with other living organisms, influence the development of plants into distinctive forms and thus also the extent of plant diversity. Human settlement and intervention has considerably reduced the diversity of plant species in many areas.

Man and the Environment

The impact of human activity on the environment has widened from being a matter of local concern (typically over the build-up of urban waste, industrial pollution, and smog) to affect whole ecosystems and, in recent decades, the global climate. Problems crossing national boundaries first became a major issue over acid rain, toxic waste dumping at sea, and chemical spillages polluting major rivers. Current concerns center on loss of biodiversity and vital habitat including wetlands and coral reefs, the felling and clearance of great tropical and temperate forests, overexploitation of scarce resources, the uncontrolled growth of cities and, above all, climate change.

OZONE HOLE

Man-made chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), used in refrigeration and aerosols, damaged the ozone layer in the stratosphere which helps filter out the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. When a seasonal ozone hole first appeared in 1985 over Antarctica, a shocked world agreed to phase out CFC use.



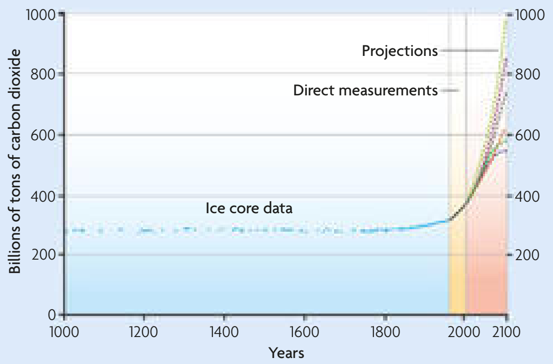
CO_2 emissions in 2008 (million tons)

- over 4000
- 1000–4000
- 500–1000
- 100–500
- 50–100
- 10–50
- 2–10
- 0–2
- no data



Climate change

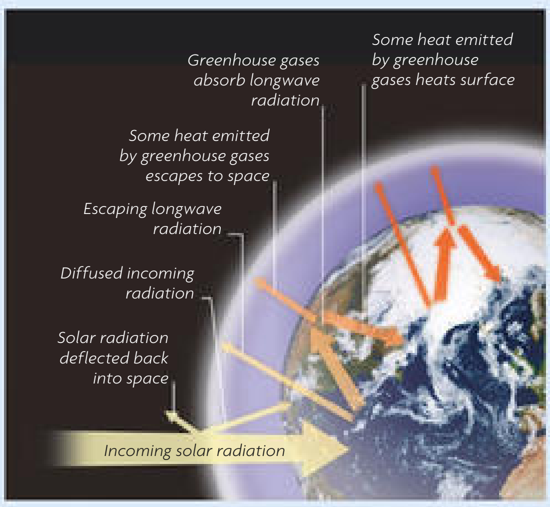
Global warming is happening much faster than Earth's normal long-term cycles of climate change. The consequences include unpredictable extreme weather and potential disruption of ocean currents. Melting ice-caps and glaciers, and warmer oceans, will raise average sea levels and threaten coastlines and cities. Food crops like wheat are highly vulnerable to changes in temperature and rainfall. Such changes can also have a dramatic affect on wildlife habitats.



Since 1800 the amount of CO_2 in the atmosphere has risen sharply. Urgent worldwide action to control emissions is vital to stabilize the level by the mid 21st century.

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Some solar energy, reflected from the Earth's surface as infra red radiation, is reflected back as heat by "greenhouse gases" (mainly carbon dioxide and methane) in the atmosphere. Nearly all scientists now agree that an upsurge in emissions caused by humans burning fossil fuel has contributed to making the resultant warming effect a major problem.

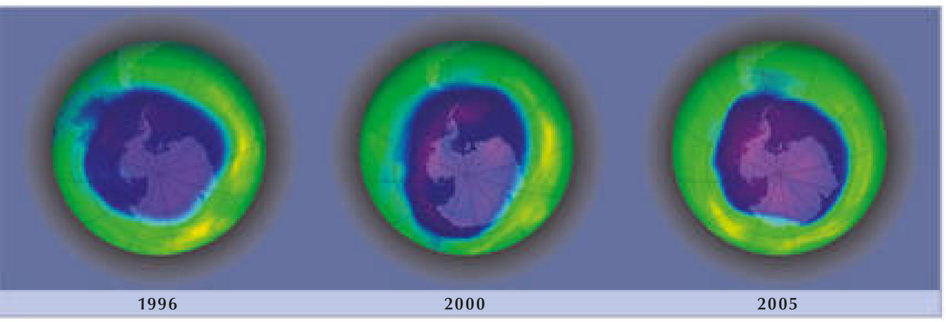


FOOD AND LAND USE

The world has about five billion hectares of agriculturally useful land, well under one hectare per person. The majority of this is pasture for grazing. Crops are grown on about 30 percent (and nearly a fifth of cropland is artificially irrigated). Mechanized farming encouraged vast single crop "monocultures," dependent on fertilizers and pesticides. North America's endless prairies of wheat and corn, huge soybean plantations, and southern cotton fields are mirrored in Ukraine (wheat), Brazil and Argentina (soya) and Uzbekistan (cotton). Elsewhere, scarce farmland can be squeezed by the housing needs of growing urban populations. Current interest in crop-derived "biofuels" means further pressure to grow food more productively on less land.



Intensive farming. Satellite photography picks up the greenhouses that now cover almost all the land in this Spanish coastal area southwest of Almeria.



DEFORESTATION

At current rates of destruction, all tropical forests, and most old-growth temperate forest, will be gone by 2090. The Amazon rain forest is a valuable genetic resource, containing innumerable unique plants and animals, as well as acting as a crucial natural "sink" for absorbing climate-damaging carbon dioxide. Stemming the loss of these precious assets to logging and farming is one of the major environmental challenges of modern times.



Over 25,000 sq miles (60,000 sq km) of virgin rain forest are cleared annually by logging and agricultural activities, destroying an irreplaceable natural resource.





GLACIATION

The world's glaciers and ice sheets have been in retreat for decades, forming less new ice at high altitudes than they lose by melting lower down. The loss of ice from Greenland doubled between 1996 and 2005, with alarming implications for rising sea levels. Other dramatic evidence of global warming includes the rapid thinning of ice in the Himalayas, and the highly symbolic loss of the snowcap on Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro.



Helheim Glacier 2001
The Helheim glacier *(above)* almost completely fills this image, with the leading edge visible on the righthand side, and was in a relatively stable condition.



Helheim Glacier 2005
By 2005 *(right)* it had retreated by 2.5 miles (4 km).



Delhi 1971
In 1971 Delhi *(above)* occupied an area of about 190 sq miles (500 sq km).



Delhi 1999
By 1999 *(right)* it had sprawled to cover 500 sq miles (1300 sq km). It vies with Mumbai in the southwest to be the sub-continent's most populous city, fast approaching 20 million people.

CITY GROWTH

The world in 2015 had 15 cities with populations over 20 million. The number of cities with populations between 10 and 20 million has surpassed 20 and continues to rise. The search for work, and the hope of escape from rural poverty, drives migration from rural to urban areas across the developing world. Urban dwellers now amount to more than half the world's population, and consume more resources than their rural counterparts.

Population and Settlement

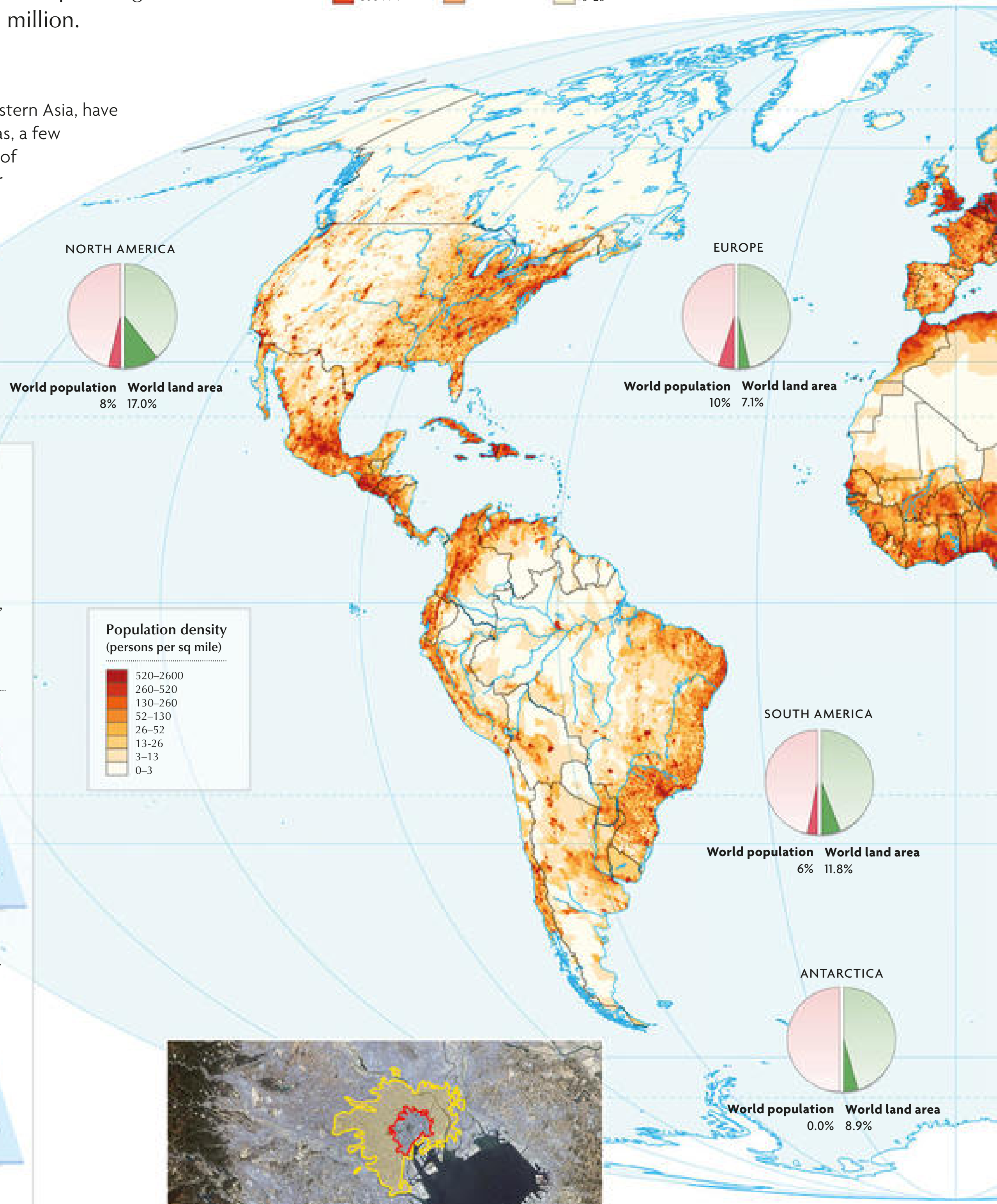
Earth's human population is projected to rise from its current level of 7.3 billion to between 8.1 and 11 billion by the year 2050. The distribution of this population is very uneven and is dictated by climate, terrain, and by natural and economic resources. Most people live in coastal zones and along the valleys of great rivers such as the Ganges, Indus, Nile, and Yangtze. Deserts cover over 20 percent of Earth's surface but support less than 5 percent of its human population. Over half the world's population live in cities—most of them in Asia, Europe, and North America—as a result of mass migrations that have occurred from rural areas as people search for jobs. Many of these people live in so-called "megacities"—sprawling urban areas that have populations higher than 10 million.



Population density by country (population per sq mile)

Population density

A few regions, including Europe, India, and much of eastern Asia, have extremely high population densities. Within these areas, a few spots, such as Monaco and Hong Kong, have densities of over 12,900 per sq mile (5000 people per sq km). Other regions (mostly desert, mountain, ice cap, tundra, or thickly forested areas) have densities close to zero –examples include large areas of Australia, western China, Siberia, North Africa, Canada, Greenland, and much of the Amazon rain forest region.



Million-person cities

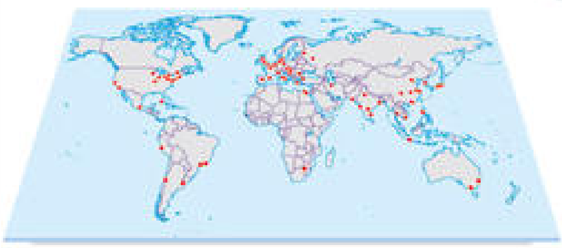
In the year 1900 there were fewer than 20 cities in the world with a population that exceeded one million. By 1950 there were 83 such cities, and by the year 2015 there were more than 500 such cities, 100 of them in China alone, with another 54 in India, 20 in Brazil, and 14 in Japan.

Million-cities in 1900

• Cities over 1 million in population



Million-cities in 1950



Million-cities in 2006





Tokyo urban sprawl

— City boundary, 1860 — City boundary, 1964

GREATER TOKYO

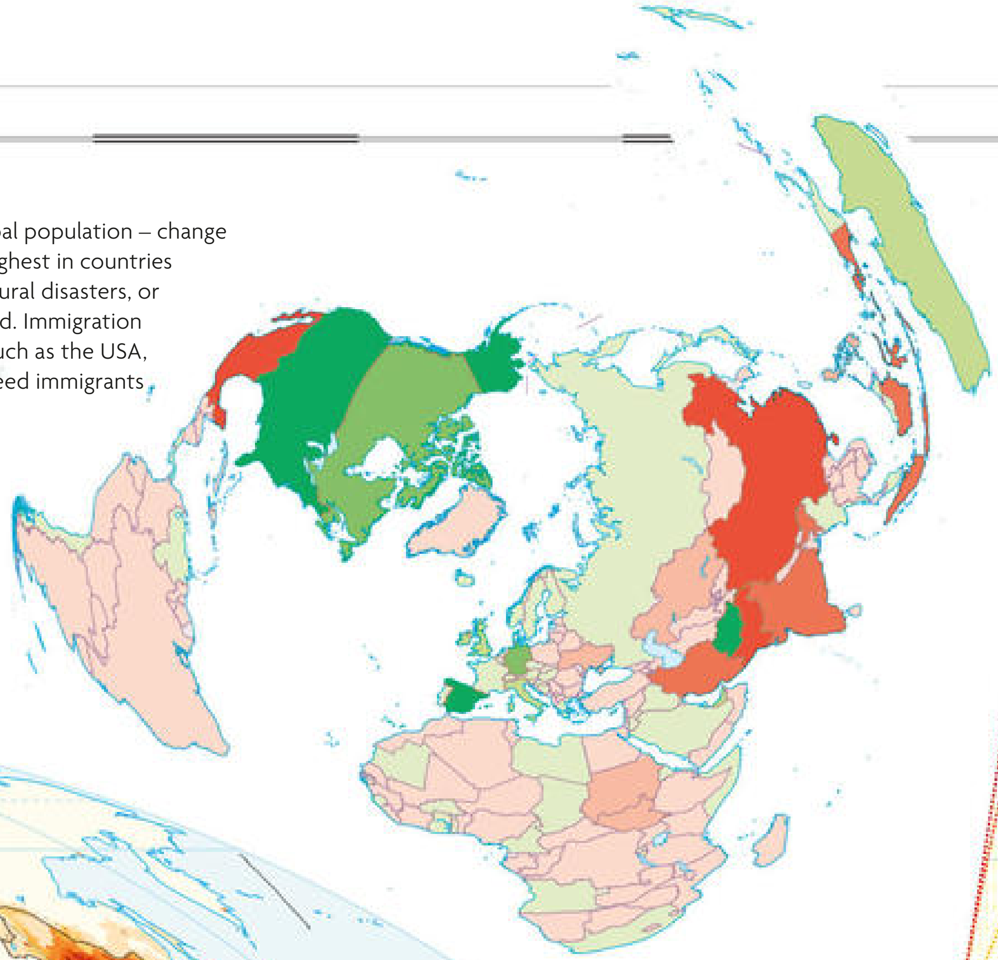
The Greater Tokyo Area is the most populous urban area in the world, with an estimated head count in 2015 of 37.8 million. It includes Tokyo City, which has a population of about 12 million, and adjoining cities such as Yokohama. This satellite photograph shows the Greater Tokyo Area today, and also the boundaries of Tokyo City in 1860 (red) and 1964 (yellow).

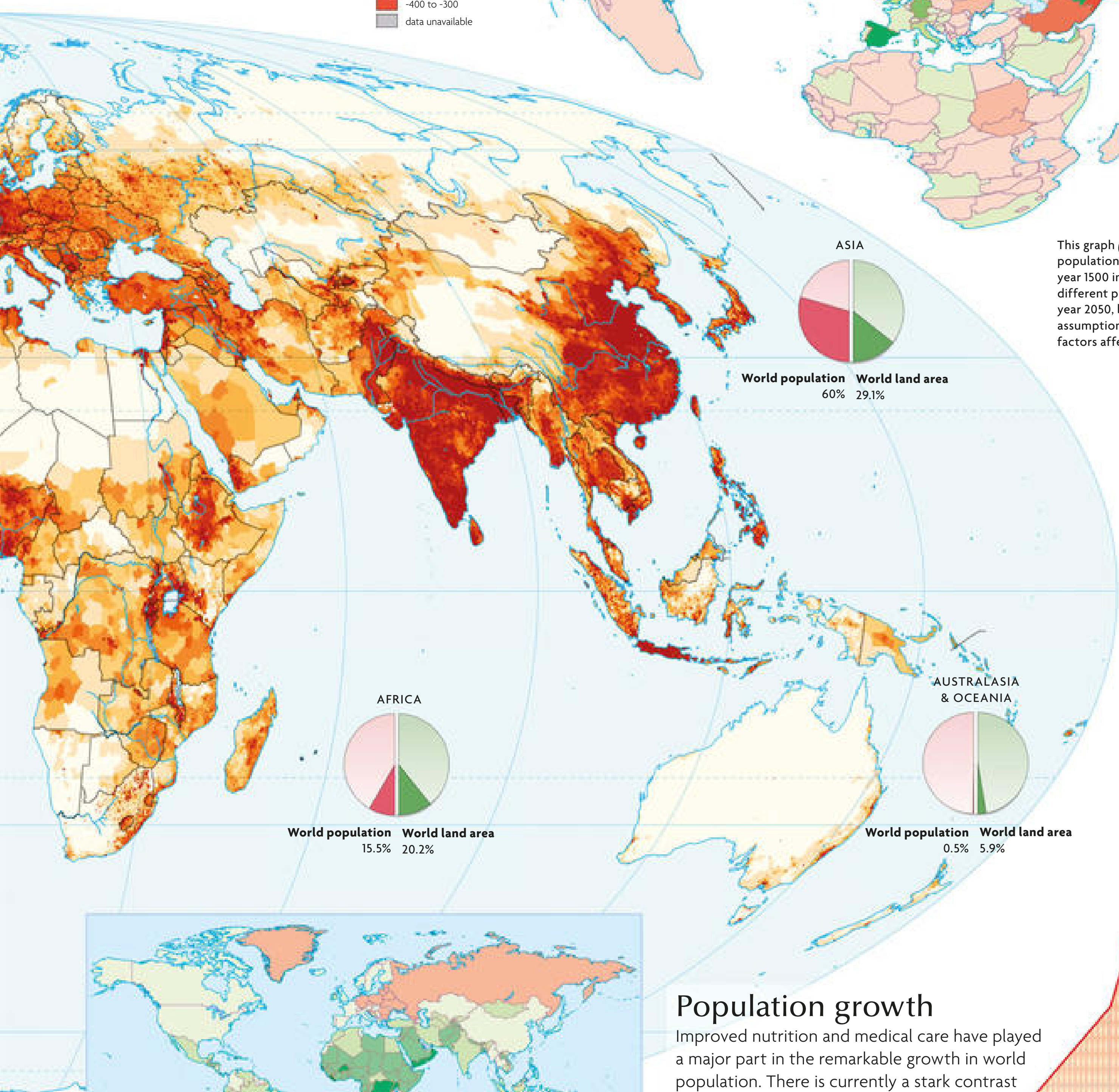
Migration

Every year about 200 million people – 3 percent of the global population – change their country of residence. Emigration rates are generally highest in countries affected by wars or that have suffered economic woes, natural disasters, or where groups of people have been oppressed or persecuted. Immigration rates are generally highest in stable, developed countries, such as the USA, Spain and Canada, which usually have low birth rates and need immigrants to provide economic support to their ageing populations.

NET MIGRATION

The map at right shows the net migration rate for each country. A positive value means more people are entering the country than leaving it (net immigration) and a negative value the reverse (net emigration).

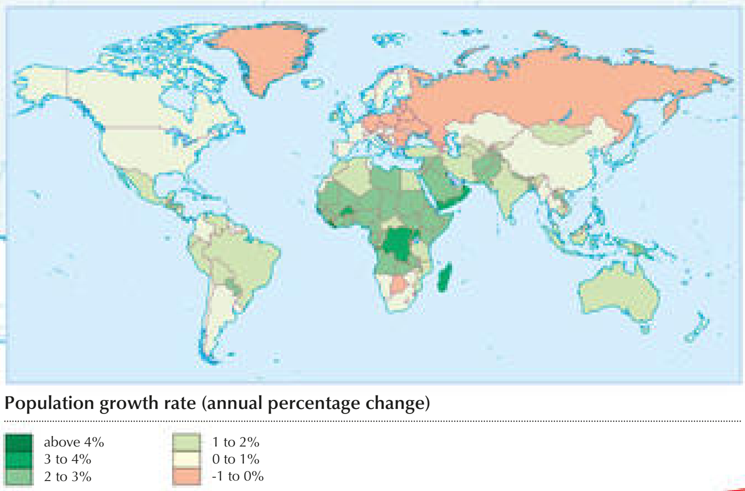


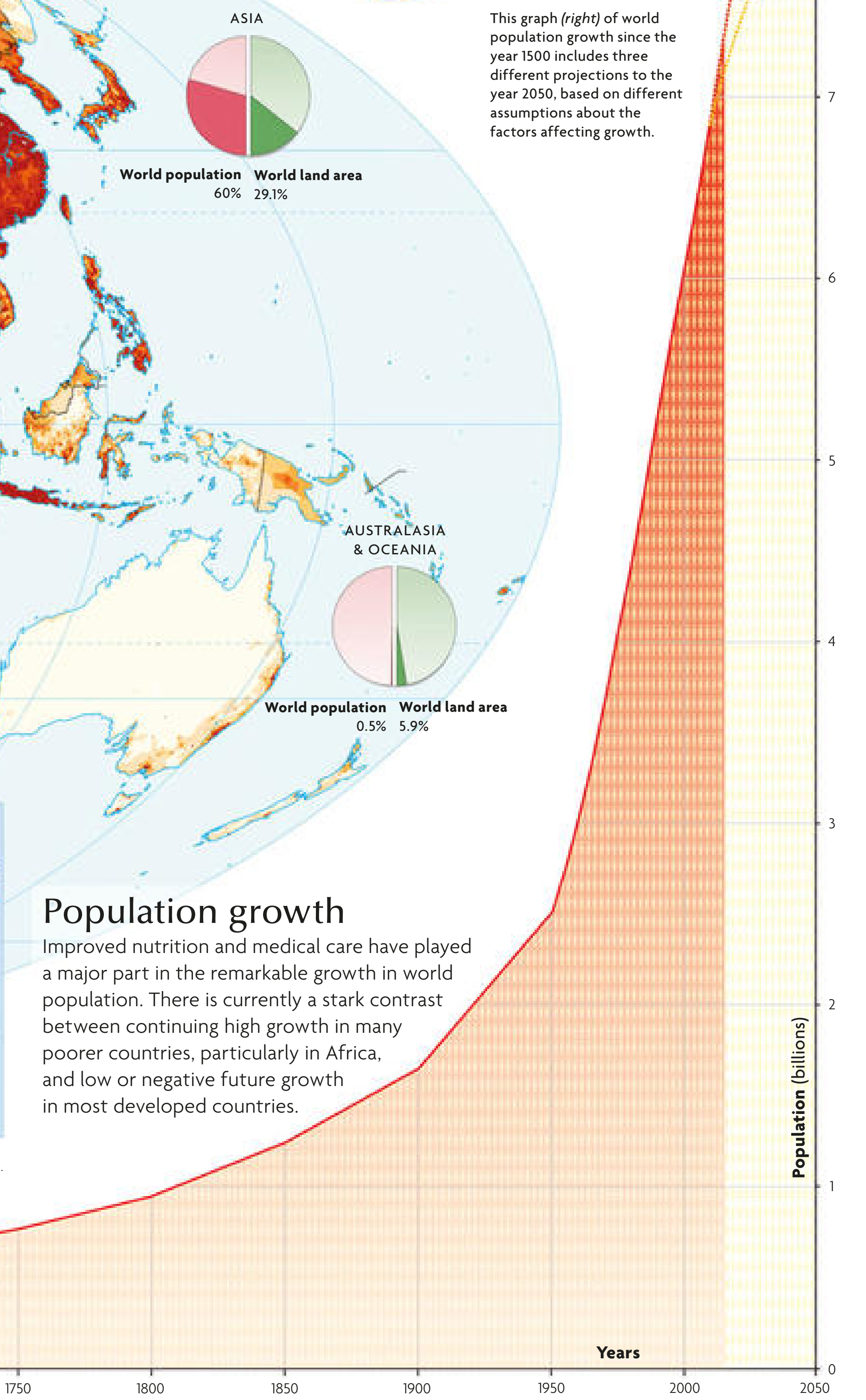


This graph *(right)* of world population growth since the year 1500 includes three different projections to the year 2050, based on different assumptions about the factors affecting growth.

Population growth

Improved nutrition and medical care have played a major part in the remarkable growth in world population. There is currently a stark contrast between continuing high growth in many poorer countries, particularly in Africa, and low or negative future growth in most developed countries.



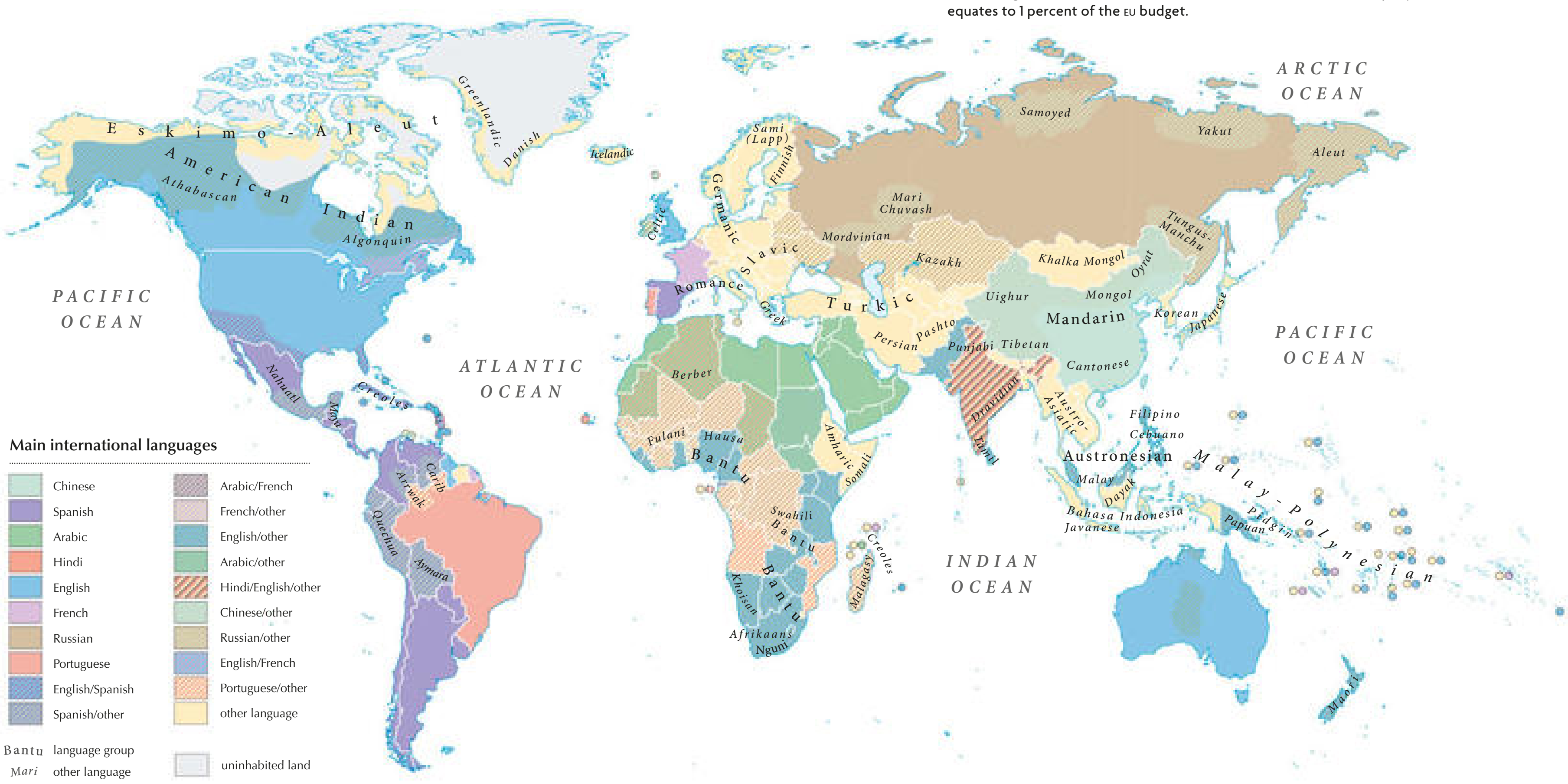


Language

Over 6800 different languages exist throughout the world, each one with its own unique evolutionary history and cultural connotations. Most of these languages are spoken only by small groups of people in remote regions. Sadly these minority tongues are dying out—it is estimated that about a third will have disappeared by the year 2100. The relatively small number of widely-spoken languages have gained their current predominance and pattern of distribution through a variety of historical factors. Among these have been the economic, military, or technological success of certain peoples and cultures, differing population growth rates, and the effects of migrations and colonization.



The European Union (EU) embraces the diversity of its 28 countries and 24 official languages by providing a translation and interpretation service for the majority of its meetings and documentation. This costs around US$ 650 million per year, which equates to 1 percent of the EU budget.



The colonial powers

Colonialism between the 15th and 20th centuries had a major influence in establishing the world prevalence of various, mainly European, languages. Britain, for example, was the colonial power in Canada, the USA (until 1776), the Indian subcontinent, Australia, and parts of Africa and the Caribbean. Hence, English is still the main (or a major) language in these areas. The same applies to France and the French language in parts of Africa and southeast Asia, and to Spain and the Spanish language in much of Latin America. For similar reasons, Portuguese is the main language in Brazil and parts of Africa, and there are many Dutch speakers in Indonesia.

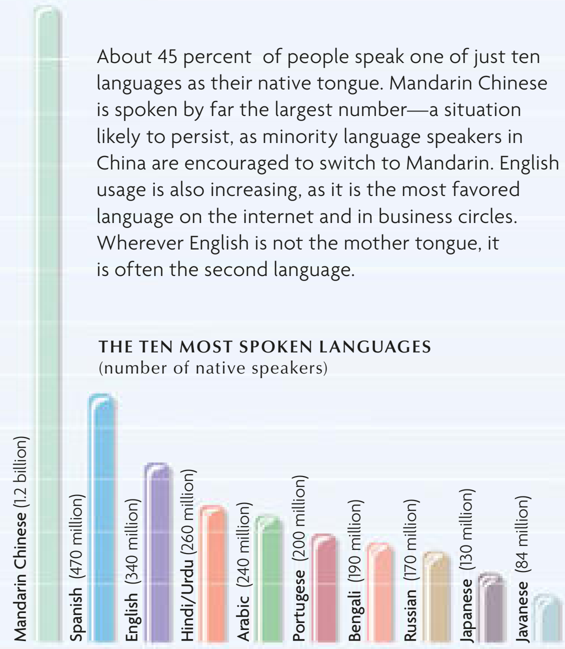


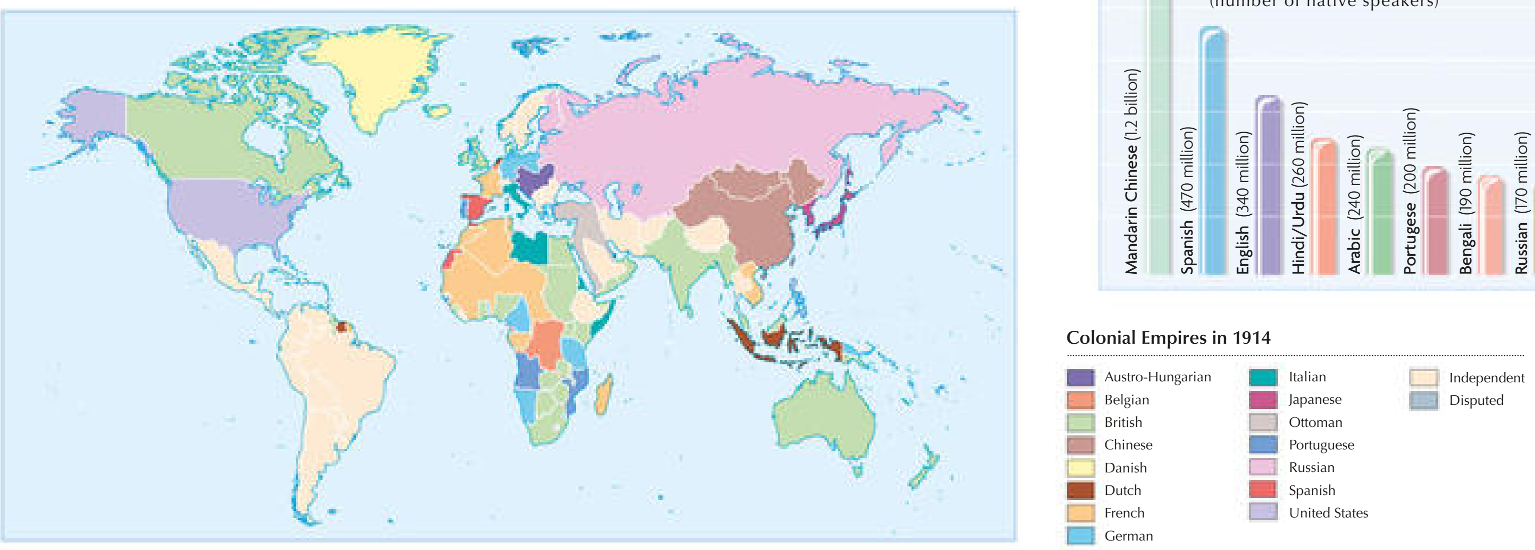
This dual language sign, written in both in Hindi and English, stands outside Shimla railway station in northern India. The sign reflects India's past—the British used Shimla as their summer capital during the colonial period.

TOP TEN LANGUAGES

About 45 percent of people speak one of just ten languages as their native tongue. Mandarin Chinese is spoken by far the largest number—a situation likely to persist, as minority language speakers in China are encouraged to switch to Mandarin. English usage is also increasing, as it is the most favored language on the internet and in business circles. Wherever English is not the mother tongue, it is often the second language.

THE TEN MOST SPOKEN LANGUAGES
(number of native speakers)





Religion

The spread of religion

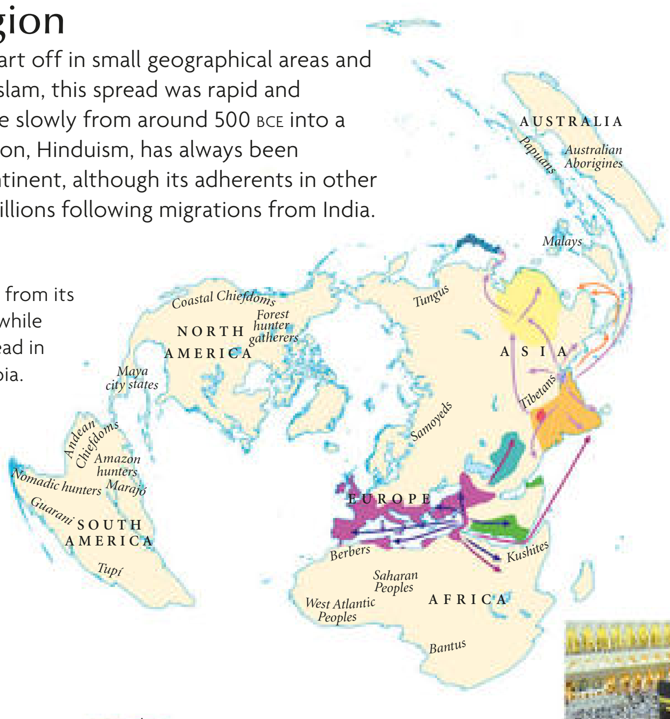
By their nature, religions usually start off in small geographical areas and then spread. For Christianity and Islam, this spread was rapid and extensive. Buddhism diffused more slowly from around 500 BCE into a large part of Asia. The oldest religion, Hinduism, has always been concentrated in the Indian subcontinent, although its adherents in other parts of the world now number millions following migrations from India.

1ST– 7TH CENTURY

During this period, Christianity spread from its origins in the eastern Mediterranean, while Hinduism and forms of Buddhism spread in Asia. Islam became established in Arabia.

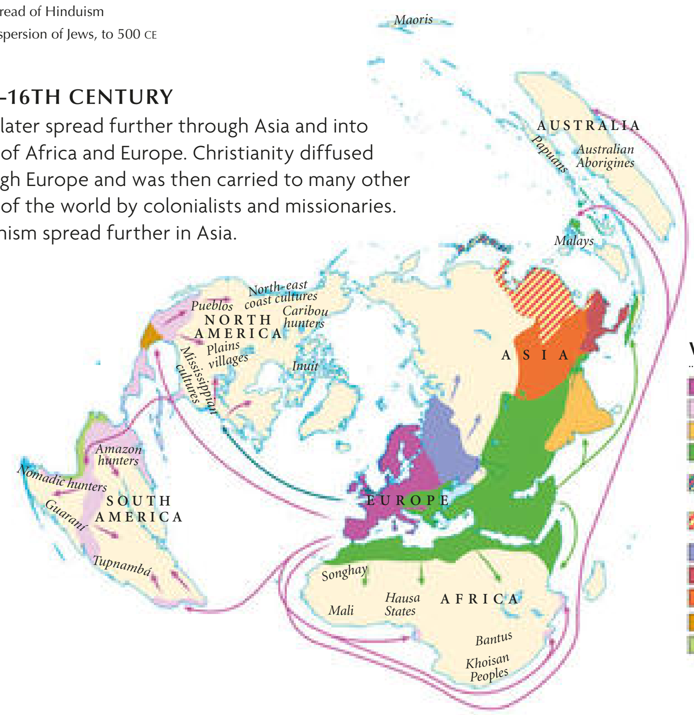
Rise and spread of the classical religions to 650 CE

- Buddhist heartland
- Chinese Confucianism/ Daoism and indigenous primal traditions
- Converted to Christianity by 600 CE
- Hinduism
- Islam under Muhammad
- Mahayana Buddhism
- Shintoism
- Zoroastrianism
- spread of Buddhism
- spread of Christianity
- spread of Hinduism
- dispersion of Jews, to 500 CE



7TH–16TH CENTURY

Islam later spread further through Asia and into parts of Africa and Europe. Christianity diffused through Europe and was then carried to many other parts of the world by colonialists and missionaries. Buddhism spread further in Asia.



About 83 percent of the world's population adheres to a religion. The remainder adopt irreligious stances such as atheism. In terms of broad similarities of belief, there are about 20 different religions in the world with more than 1 million adherents. However, the larger of these are split into several denominations, which differ in their exact beliefs and practices. Christianity, for example, includes three major groupings that have historically been in conflict—Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, and Orthodox Christianity—as well as hundreds of separate smaller groups. Many of the world's other main religious, such as Islam and Buddhism, are also subdivided.



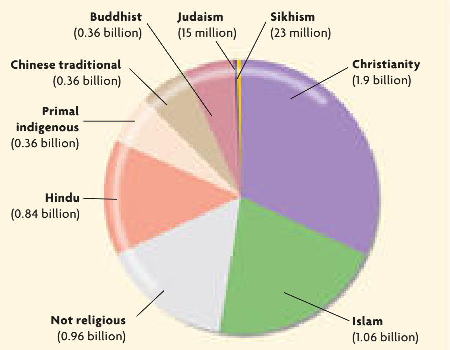
Each year millions of Muslims visit Mecca during the the Islamic pilgrimage known as the *Hajj*

World religions c.1500 CE

- Catholic Christianity
- area converted to Catholic Christianity
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Mahayana Buddhism and Confucianism, Daoism and Shinto
- Mahayana Buddhism and Confucianism, Daoism
- Russian Orthodoxy
- Theravada Buddhism
- Tibetan Buddhism
- Aztec Empire
- Inca Empire
- spread of Catholicism
- spread of Islam
- spread of Protestantism
- spread of Russian Orthodoxy

RELIGION AROUND THE WORLD

About 72 percent of humanity adheres to one of five religions: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Chinese traditional religion (which includes Daoism and Confucianism). Of the remainder, many are adherents of primal indigenous religions (a wide range of tribal or folk religions such as shamanism).





Majority religions

- Protestant Christianity
- Catholic Christianity
- Orthodox Christianity
- Shi'a Islam
- Sunni Islam
- Hinduism
- Judaism
- Theravada Buddhism
- Mahayana Buddhism
- Tibetan Buddhism
- other
- Marxism / Maoism

State policy

- ▲ secular ideologies governing
- ● communist states during 20th century
- ■ non-pluralist states

Health

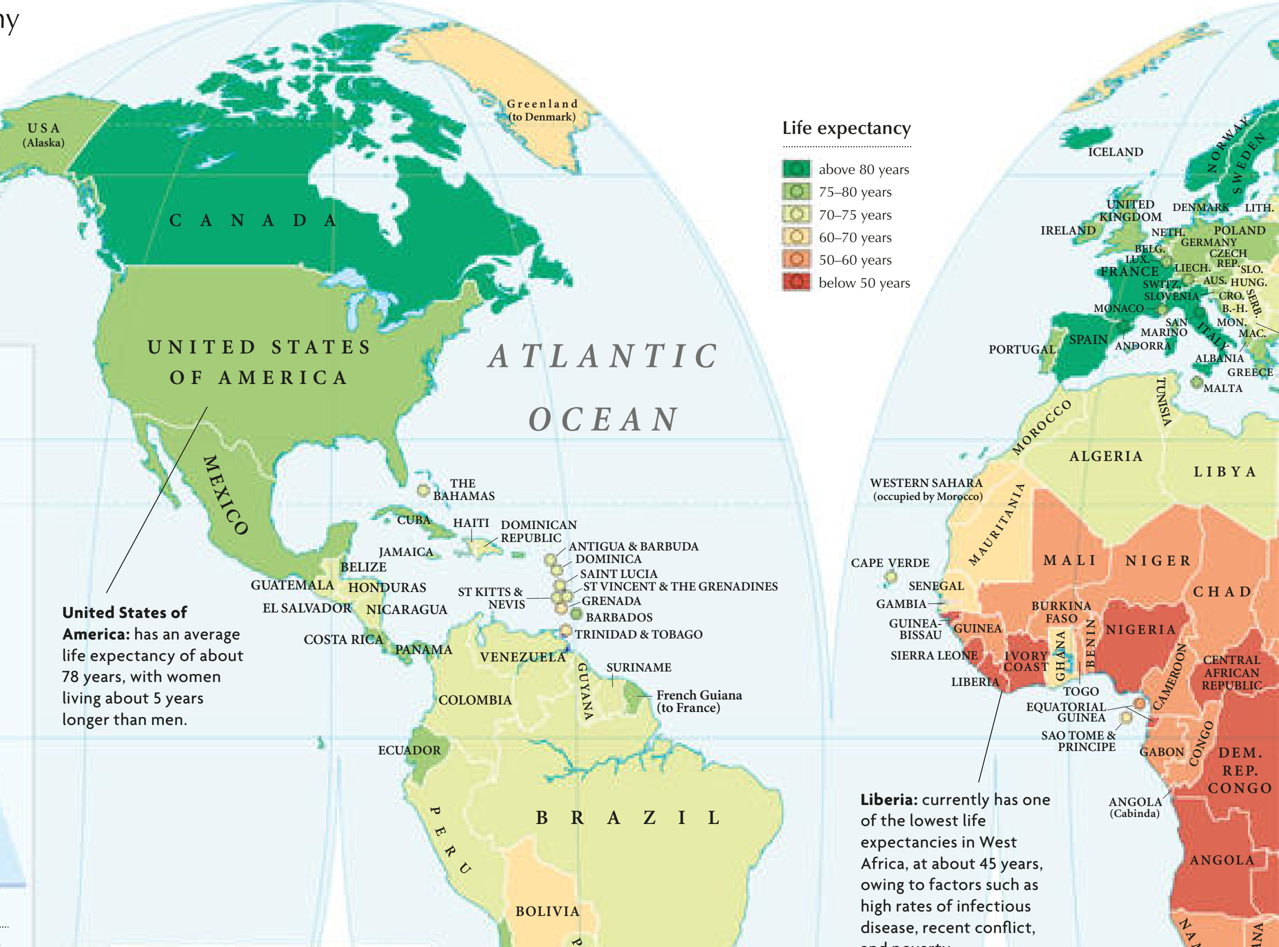
On most health parameters, the countries of the world split into two distinct groups. The first of these encompass the richer, developed, countries, where medical care is good to excellent, infant mortality and the incidence of deadly infectious diseases is low, and life expectancy is high and rising. Some of the biggest health problems in these countries arise from overeating, while the two main causes of death are heart disease and cancer. The second region consists of the poorer developing countries, where medical care is much less adequate, infant mortality is high, many people are undernourished, and infectious diseases such as malaria are major killers. Life expectancy in these countries is much lower and in some cases is falling.



Life expectancy

Life expectancy has risen remarkably in developed countries over the past 50 years and has now topped 80 years in many of them. In contrast, life expectancy in many of the countries of sub-Saharan Africa has fallen well below 50, in large part due to the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS.

Many people in developed countries are now living for 15–20 years after retirement, putting greater pressure on welfare and health services.



United States of America: has an average life expectancy of about 78 years, with women living about 5 years longer than men.

Liberia: currently has one of the lowest life expectancies in West Africa, at about 45 years, owing to factors such as high rates of infectious disease, recent conflict, and poverty.

Infant deaths and births

Infant mortality is still high in many developing nations, especially some African countries, due in part to stretched medical services. As well as lower infant mortality, the world's developed countries have much lower birth rates—greater female emancipation and easier access to contraceptives are two causative factors.



World infant mortality rates (deaths per 1000 live births)

above 125 | 75–124 | 35–74 | 15–34 | below 15

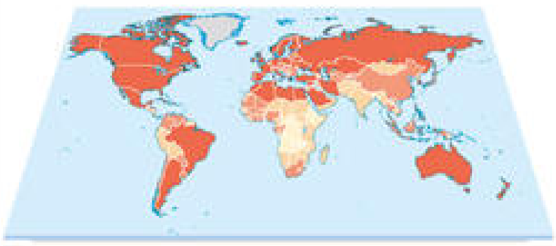


Number of births (per 1000 people)

above 40 | 30–39 | 20–29 | below 20

Nutrition

Two-thirds of the world's food is consumed in developed nations, many of which have a daily calorific intake far higher than is needed by their populations. By contrast, about 800 million people in the developing world do not have enough food to meet basic nutritional needs.



Daily calorie intake per capita

above 3000 | 2500–2999 | 2000–2499 | below 2000



The extensive public healthcare system in Cuba provides for around 6 doctors per 1000 people, one of the highest ratios in the world.

Healthcare

An indicator of the strength of healthcare provision in a country is the number of doctors per 1000 population. Some communist and former communist countries such as Cuba and Russia score well in this regard. In general, healthcare provision is good or adequate in most of the world's richer countries but scanty throughout much of Africa and in parts of Asia and Latin America.

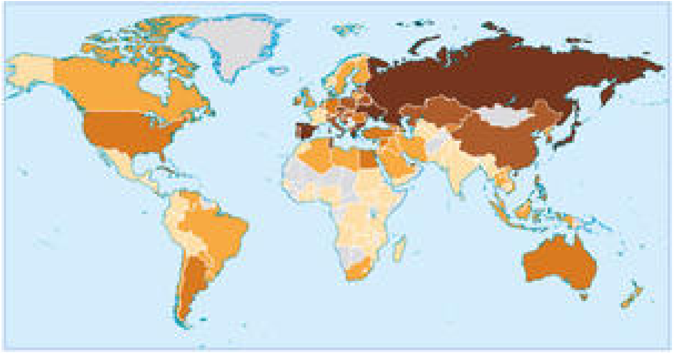


Medical doctors (per 1000 people)

above 5 | 4–5 | 3–4 | 1–3 | 0.5–1 | below 0.5 | no data

Smoking

Cigarette smoking—one of the most harmful activities to health—is common throughout much of the world. Smoking prevalence is generally highest in the richer, developed countries. However, awareness of the health risks has seen cigarette consumption in most of these countries stabilize or begin to fall. By contrast, more and more people, especially males, are taking up the habit in poorer developing countries.



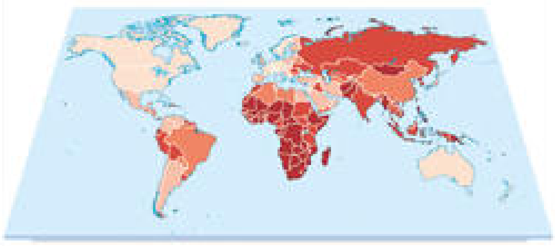
Annual cigarette consumption (per person)

above 2000 | 1500–2000 | 1000–1499 | 500–999 | 0–499 | no data



Communicable diseases

Despite advances in their treatment and prevention, infectious diseases remain a huge problem, especially in developing countries. Three of the most common and deadly are tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS, and malaria. Of these, active TB affects about 25 million people (often as a complication of AIDS), with a particularly high prevalence in parts of Africa. HIV/AIDS has spread since 1981 to become a global pandemic. Malaria affects about 225 million people every year.



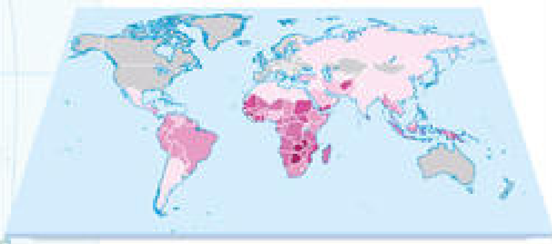
Estimated tuberculosis cases (per 100,000 per year)

above 300 | 100–300 | 50–100 | 10–50 | below 10



Adult (15-49) HIV prevalence rate (percent of population)

15–34 | 5–15 | 1–5 | 0.5–1 | 0.1–0.5 | below 0.1 | no data

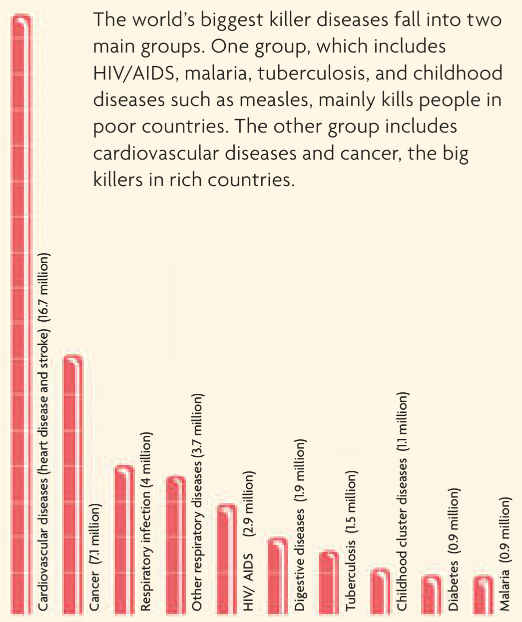


Malaria cases (per 100,000 per year)

above 25,000 | 10,000–25,000 | 1000–10,000 | 100–1000 | 10–100 | below 10 | low risk

TOP TEN KILLER DISEASES

The world's biggest killer diseases fall into two main groups. One group, which includes HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and childhood diseases such as measles, mainly kills people in poor countries. The other group includes cardiovascular diseases and cancer, the big killers in rich countries.





The use of mosquito nets greatly reduces the transmission of malaria and the risk of infection.

Preventive medicine

Throughout the world, doctors recognize that the prevention of disease and disease transmission is just as important as the treatment of illness. Preventive medicine has many aspects and includes advice about diet and nutrition; education about the avoidance of health-threatening behaviors such as smoking, excess alcohol consumption, and unprotected sex; and the use of vaccines against diseases such as typhoid, polio and cholera. In developing countries, some of the main priorities in preventive medicine are the provision of pure water supplies and proper sanitation, as well as measures against malaria, including the use of antimalarial drugs and mosquito nets.

Water Resources

Water covers 71 percent of Earth's surface, but only 2.5 percent of this is fresh water, and two thirds of that is locked up in glaciers and polar ice sheets. Patterns of human settlement have developed around fresh water availability, but increasing numbers of people are now vulnerable to chronic shortage or interruptions in supply. Worldwide, fresh water consumption multiplied more than sixfold during the 20th century as populations increased and agriculture became more dependent on irrigation, much of it hugely wasteful because of evaporation and run-off. Industrial water demand also rose, as did use in the home, for washing, flushing, cooking, and gardening.





Amid the desert of Wadi Rum, Jordan, crops grow on circular patches of land irrigated with water from an underground aquifer.

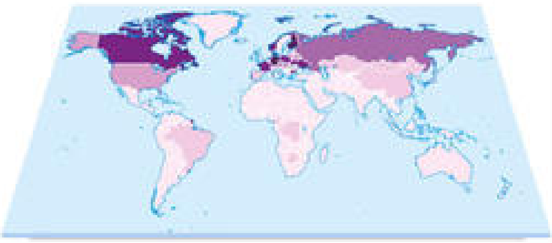
Water withdrawal

Agriculture accounts for 70 percent of water consumption worldwide. Industry and domestic use each account for 15 percent. Excessive withdrawal of water affects the health of rivers and the needs of people. China's Yellow River now fails to reach the sea for most of the year.



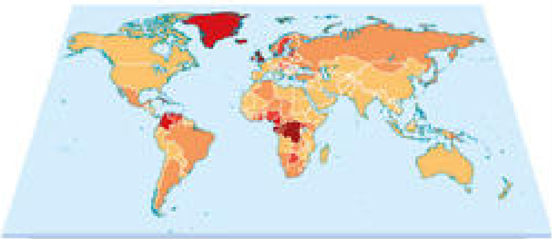
Percentage of freshwater withdrawal by agriculture

79–100 | 66–79 | 47–66 | 31–47 | 16–31 | 0–16



Percentage of freshwater withdrawal by industry

79–100 | 66–79 | 47–66 | 31–47 | 16–31 | 0–16



Percentage of freshwater withdrawal by domestic use

60–81 | 45–60 | 30–45 | 15–30 | 0–15 | no data



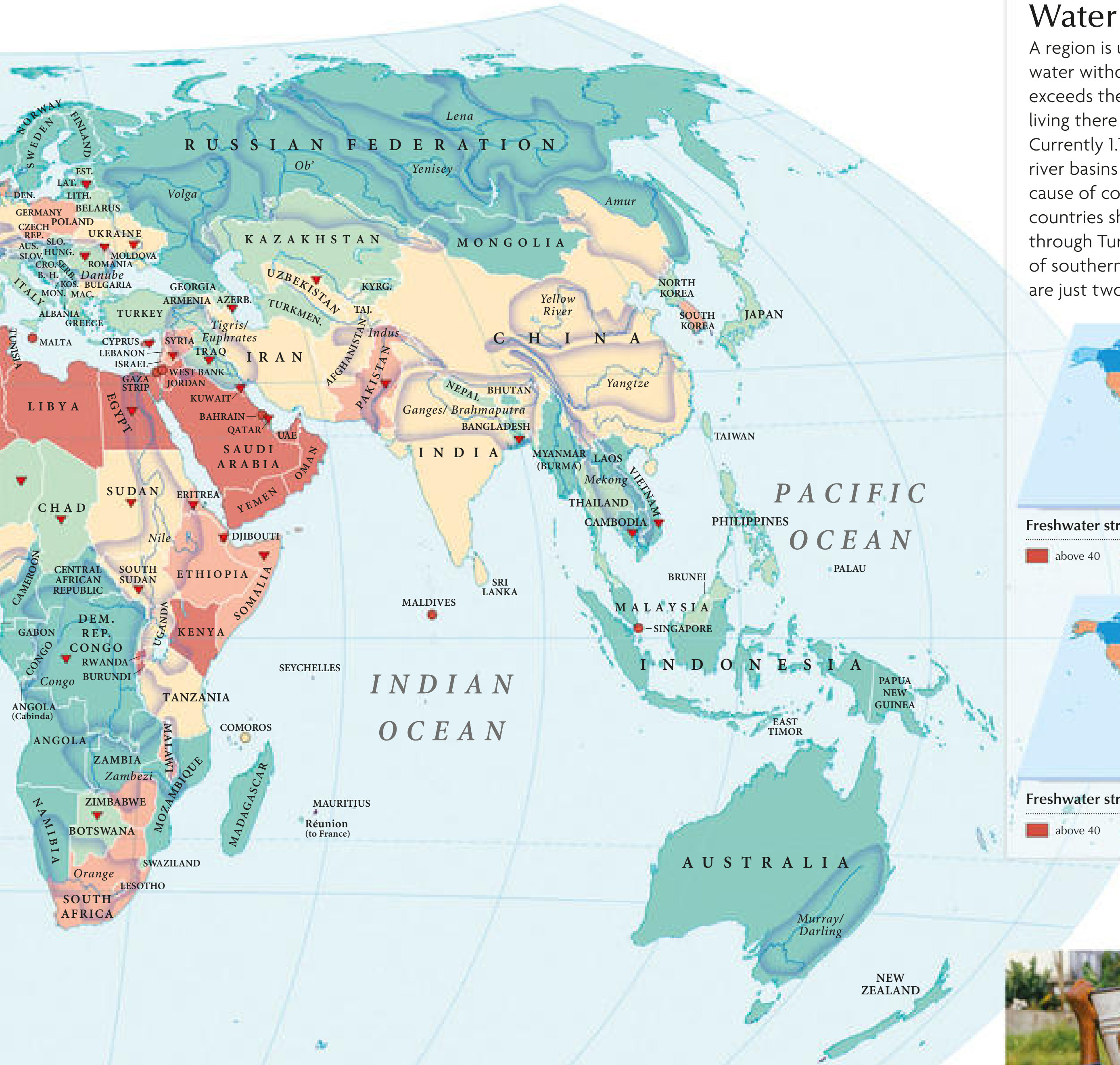
Drought

The disruption of normal rainfall patterns can cause drought problems even in temperate zones, with consequences ranging from domestic water usage restrictions to low crop yields to forest fires. In regions of the developing world where monsoon rains fail, or water is perennially scarce, drought is a life or death issue. Parts of central and east Africa, for instance, have suffered severe and recurring droughts in recent decades, with disastrous results including destruction of livestock, desertification, famine, and mass migration.



In a severe drought, river beds may dry up *(above left)*, leaving stranded fish to die, as here in Florida.

A Chinese farmer waters dry fields *(above)* in China's southern province of Guangdong. This picture was taken in May 2002, but the image is timeless; it could be August 2006 in Sichuan province, to the northwest of here—or almost any year in water-stressed northern China.



Water stress

A region is under “water stress” when the rate of water withdrawal from its rivers and aquifers exceeds their natural replenishment, so that people living there are subject to frequent shortages. Currently 1.7 billion people live in “highly stressed” river basins worldwide. This is a major potential cause of conflict, particularly when several countries share one river; the Euphrates, running through Turkey, Syria, and Iraq, or the rivers of southern China running south into Korea, are just two examples.



Freshwater stress in 1995 Water withdrawal (% of total available)

above 40 | 20–40 | 10–20 | below 10

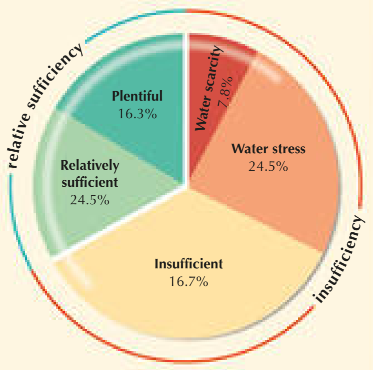


Freshwater stress in 2025 Water withdrawal (% of total available)

above 40 | 20–40 | 10–20 | below 10

WATER AVAILABILITY

(by percentage of world’s population)

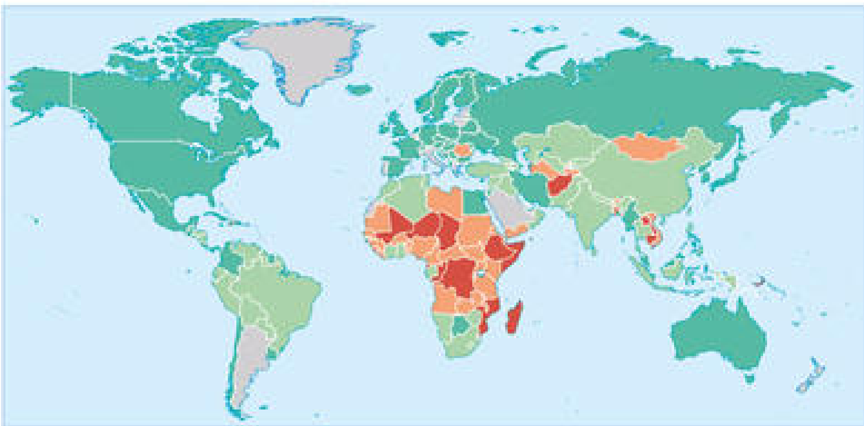






Clean drinking water

Sub-Saharan Africa is among the most deprived regions for lack of access to safe drinking water. Worldwide, this terrible health hazard affects over a billion people—at least 15 percent of the population. One of the agreed United Nations “millennium goals” for international development is to halve this proportion by 2015, by tackling chemical pollution from agriculture and industry, and by introducing essential purification facilities and local supply systems. In the industrialized world, people have come to expect clean drinking water on tap, even if they face rising prices for its treatment and supply.



Mozambican children *(above)* fetch precious water in metal pans.

Gujarati villagers gather to draw water from a huge well *(above left)* in Natwarghad, western India. Many wells and village ponds ran dry in the severe drought of 2003, leaving local people to wait for irregular supplies brought in by state-run tankers.

Access to safe drinking water source (percentage of population)

91%–100% | 76%–90% | 50%–75% | below 50% | no data

Economic Systems

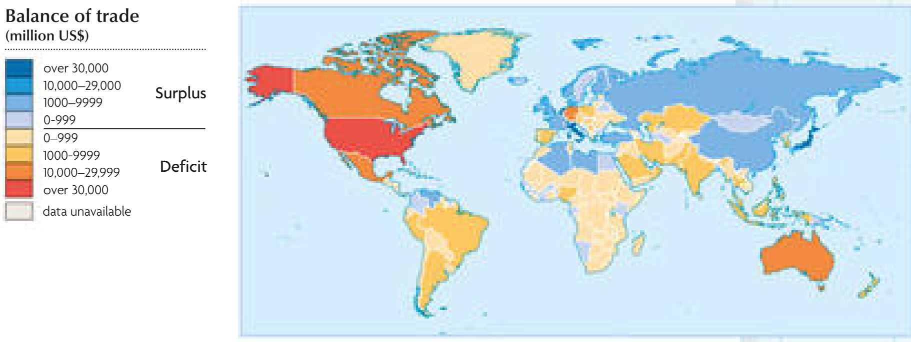
The world economy is now effectively a single global system based on “free market” capitalist principles. Few countries still cling, like North Korea, to the “command economy” formula developed in the former communist bloc, where centralized state plans set targets for investment and production. In the West, state ownership of companies has greatly diminished thanks to the wave of privatization in the last 25 years. Major companies move capital and raw materials around the globe to take advantage of different labor costs and skills. The World Trade Organization (WTO) promotes free trade, but many countries still use subsidies, and protect their markets with import tariffs or quotas, to favor their own producers.

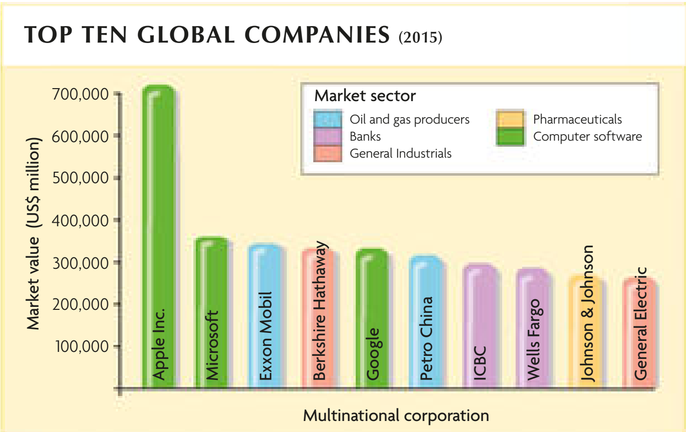


Enormous volumes of trade pass through the world’s stock markets making them key indicators of the strength of the global economy.

Balance of trade

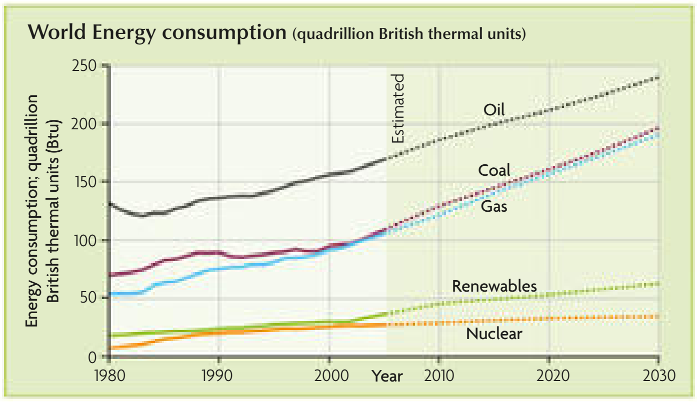
Few countries earn from their exports exactly as much as they spend on imports. If the imbalance is persistently negative, it creates a potentially serious problem of indebtedness. The European Union’s (EU) external trade is broadly in balance, but the US balance of trade has been in deficit since the 1970s, partly because it imports so many consumer goods. This deficit now stands at around US$ 500 billion a year.

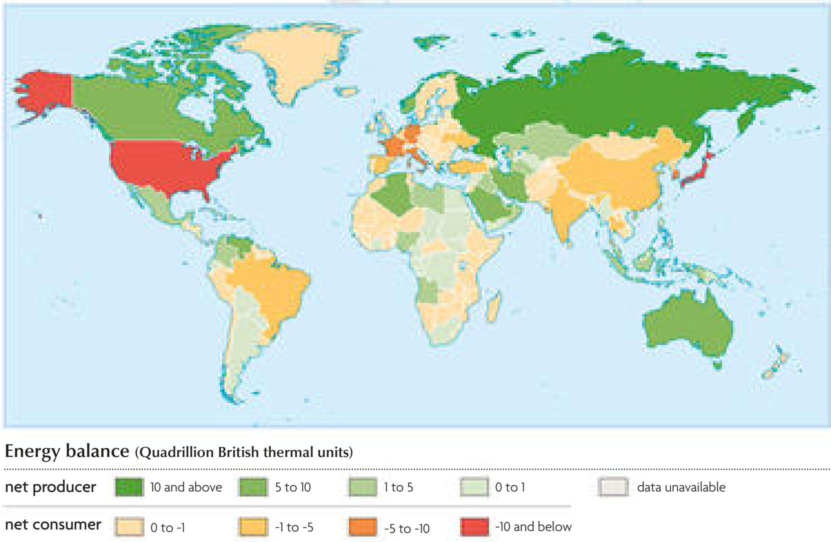


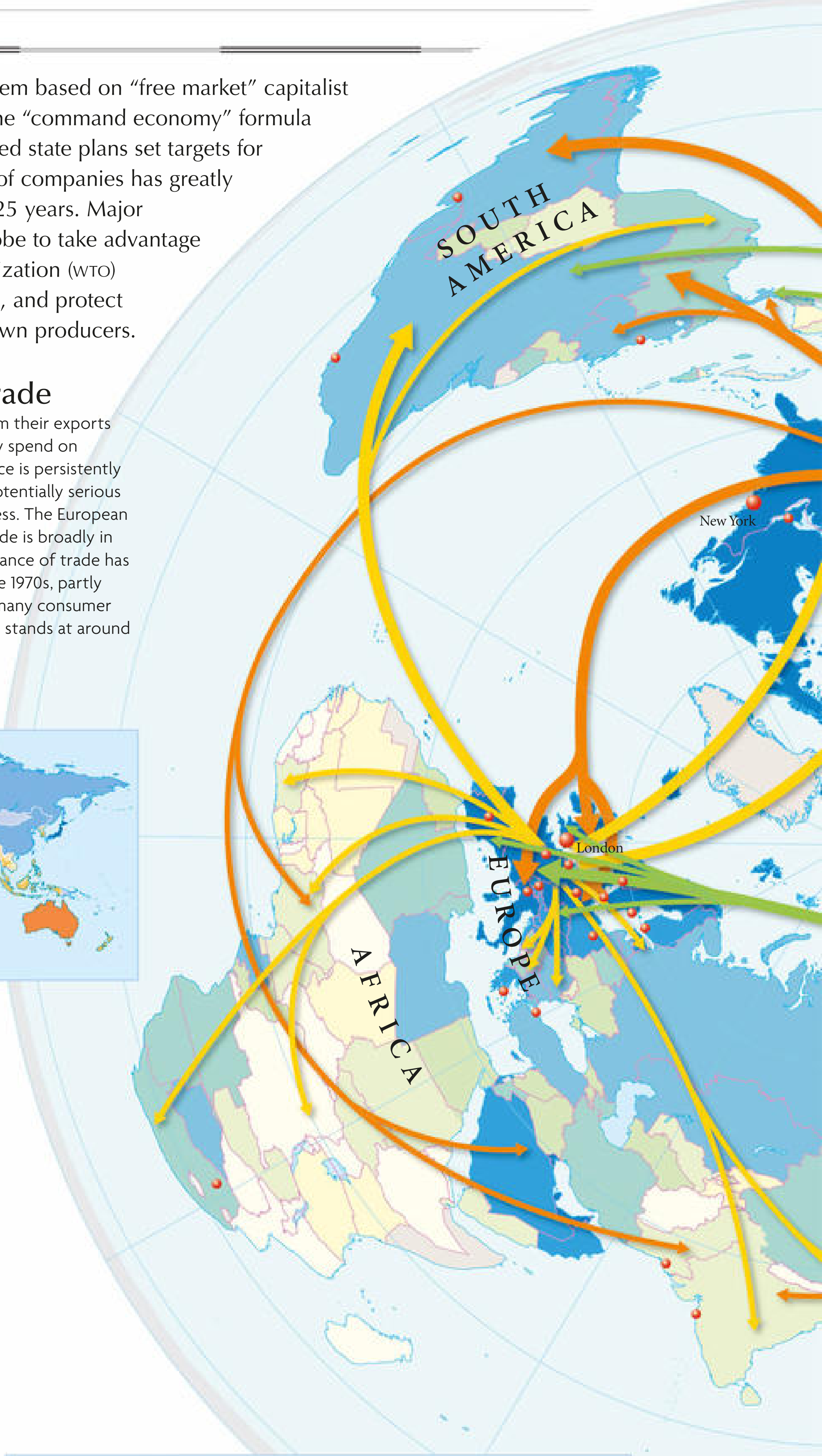


Energy

Countries with oil and gas to sell (notably in the Middle East and Russia) can charge high prices; trade in fuel was worth US$ 1.4 trillion in 2005. The US and others are turning back to nuclear power (despite safety fears) for generating electricity. China relies heavily on (polluting) coal. Renewable technologies promise much, but so far make relatively minor contributions.



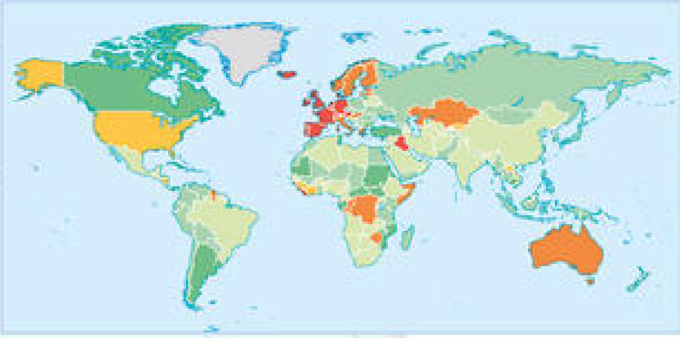


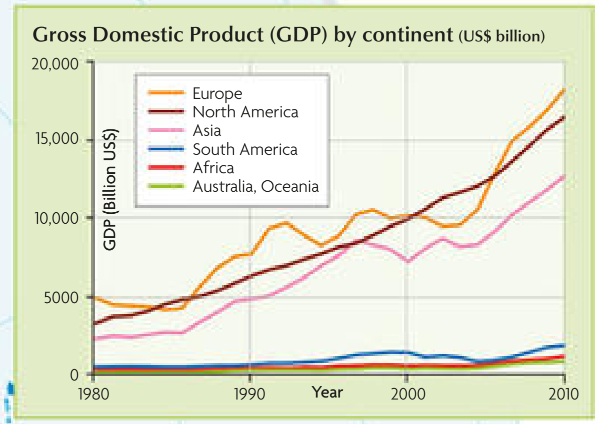




International debt

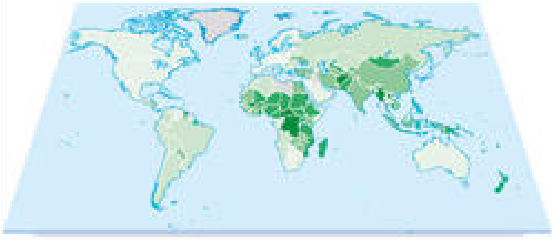
Saddled with crippling debts from past borrowing, the world's poorest countries are still paying off US $100 million a day. This is despite recent successful campaigns to get some of their debts cancelled to allow them to use their limited resources for development. Most international debt, however, is owed by developed countries to one another. The US owes just over a trillion dollars, around 7% of its total debt, to China.

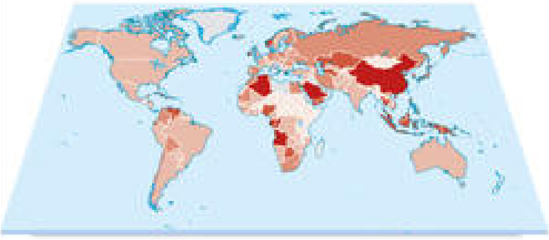




Trade sector

World trade in merchandise tops US$ 10 trillion a year. The global pattern is uneven. Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Russia principally export "primary" goods (agricultural produce, mining and fuel). The "secondary" manufacturing sector includes iron and steel, machine tools, chemicals, clothing and textiles, cars and other consumer goods. The West still dominates the "tertiary" or non-merchandise sector, worth US$ 2.4 trillion, in services such as insurance and banking.

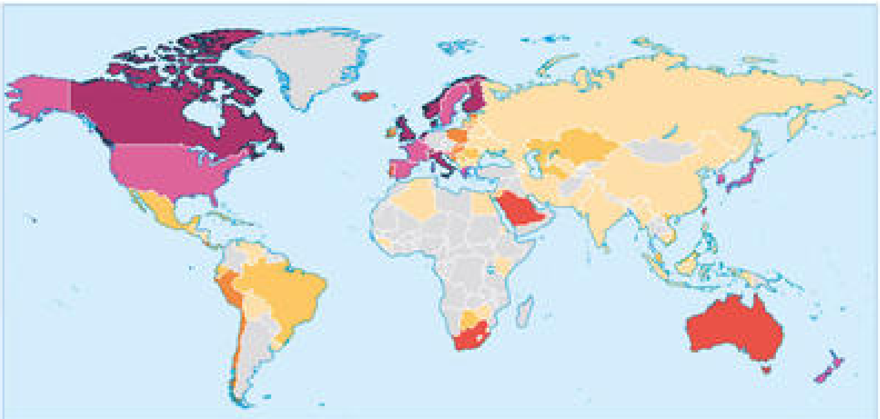






Labor

China's huge low-cost labor force promotes its conquest of world markets for manufactured goods. India's educated workforce attracts call centers and other service sector jobs, while the more economically developed countries's (MEDC) caring professions, and low-wage agriculture, draw in immigrant labor.



Travel

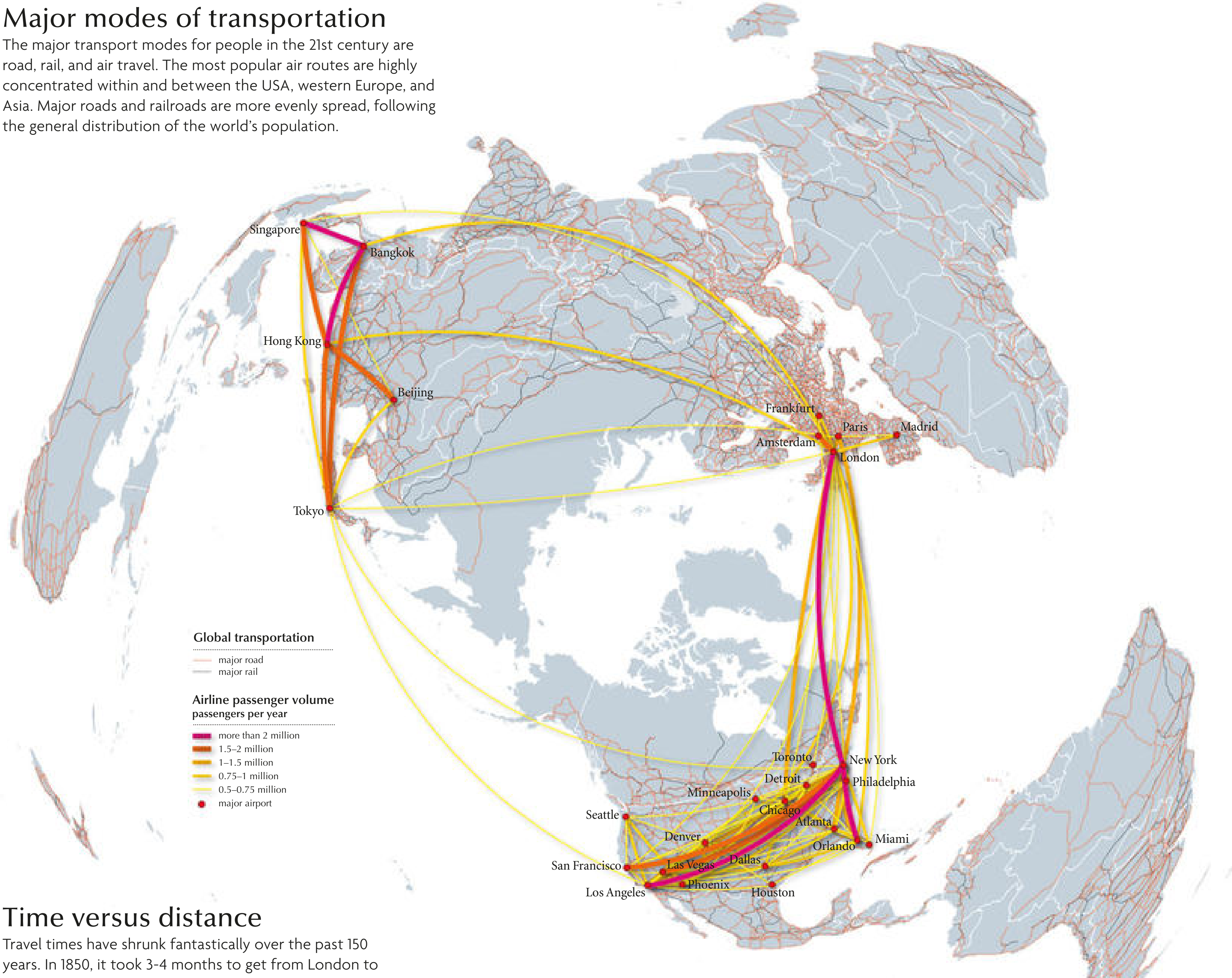
Mass travel is now a ubiquitous feature of all developed countries, and the provision of transport and tourism facilities one of the world's biggest industries, employing well over 100 million people. The travel explosion has come about, first, through major improvements in transportation technology; and second, as a result of increasing amounts of disposable income and leisure time in the world's wealthier countries. The main reasons for travel today include leisure pursuits and tourism (accounting for well over half of the total financial outlay), work and business, pilgrimage, migration, and visits to family and friends.



There are currently around 4.2 billion air travelers a year passing through over 1600 international and domestic airports. This figure is forecast to grow by 4 percent each year, leading to increased pressure on air traffic control and ground handling systems that, in many areas, are already close to maximum capacity.

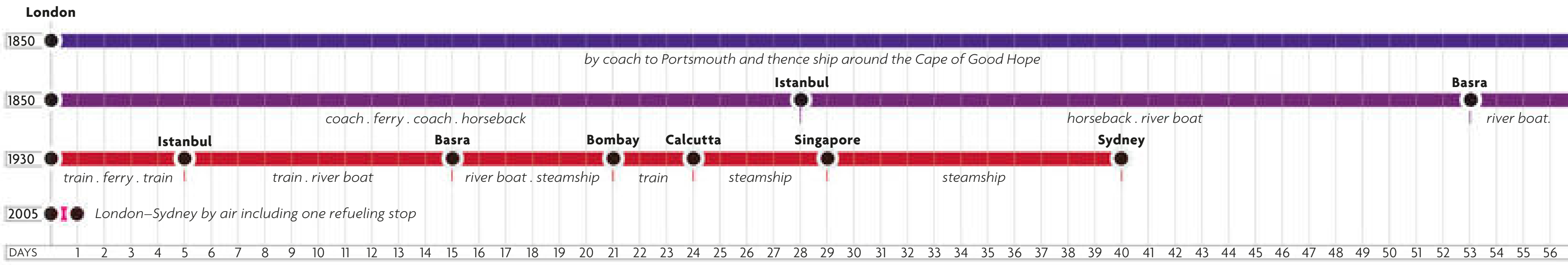
Major modes of transportation

The major transport modes for people in the 21st century are road, rail, and air travel. The most popular air routes are highly concentrated within and between the USA, western Europe, and Asia. Major roads and railroads are more evenly spread, following the general distribution of the world's population.



Time versus distance

Travel times have shrunk fantastically over the past 150 years. In 1850, it took 3-4 months to get from London to Sydney, whether by ship for most of the way or by a series of different transports. By 1930, trains and faster ships had reduced the journey to about 40 days. In 2005, the trip took just 21 hours by air.



Media and Communications

Over the past 50 years, the term "media" has come to denote various means of communicating information between people at a distance. These include mass media—methods such as newspapers, radio, and television that can be used to rapidly disseminate information to large numbers of people—and two-way systems, such as telephones and e-mail. Currently, the communication systems undergoing the most rapid growth worldwide include mobile telephony and various Internet-based applications, such as web sites, blogs, and podcasting, which can be considered forms of mass media.

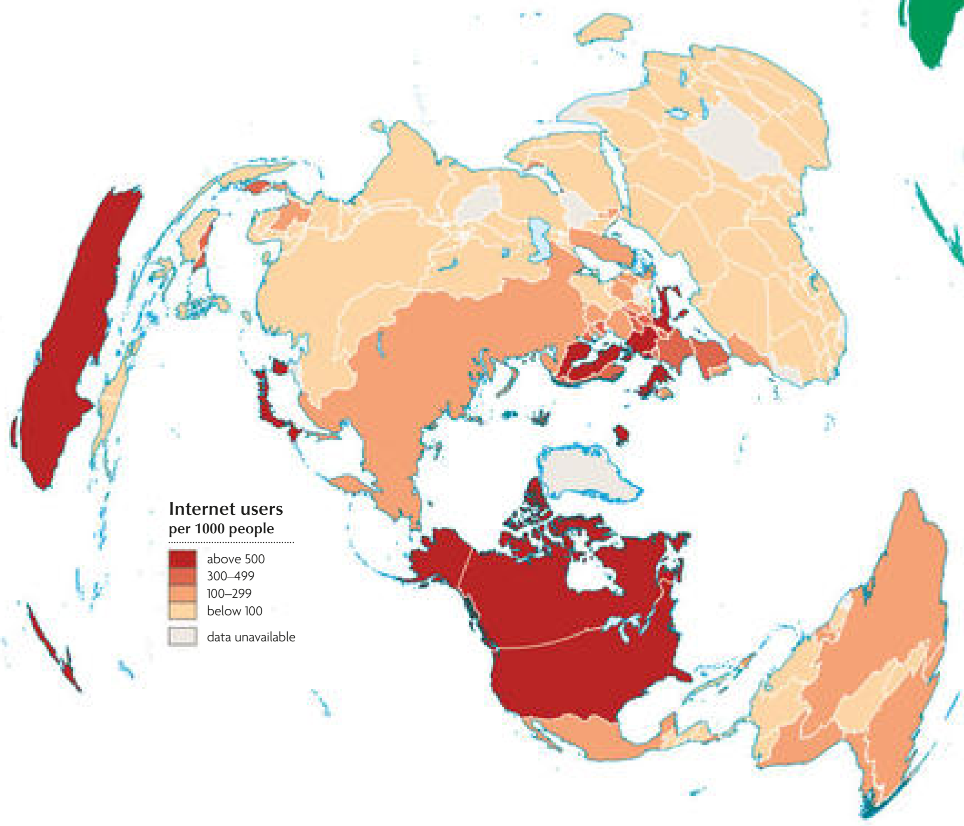
Mobile phone usage

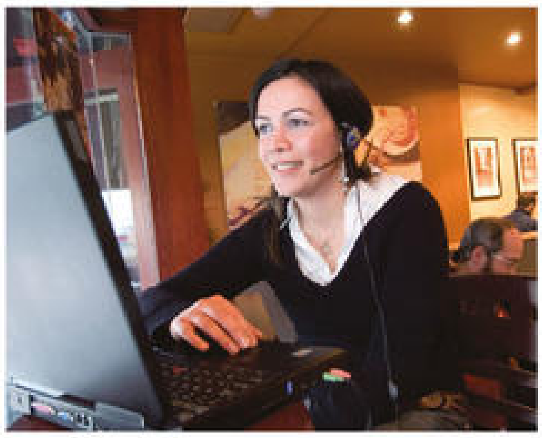
By 2006, there were more than 2.5 billion mobile phone users worldwide. In some parts of Europe, such as Italy, almost everyone owns and uses a mobile—many possess more than one phone. In contrast, throughout much of Southern Asia and Africa, less than 10 percent of the population are users. As well as utilizing them as telephones, most users now employ the devices for the additional functions they offer, such as text messaging and e-mail.



Internet usage

Internet usage has grown extremely rapidly since the early 1990s, largely as a result of the invention of the World Wide Web. Usage rates are highest in the USA (where about 80 percent of people were using the Internet in 2006), Australia, Japan, South Korea, and Finland. They are lowest in Africa, where on average less than 5 percent of the population were Internet users in 2006.

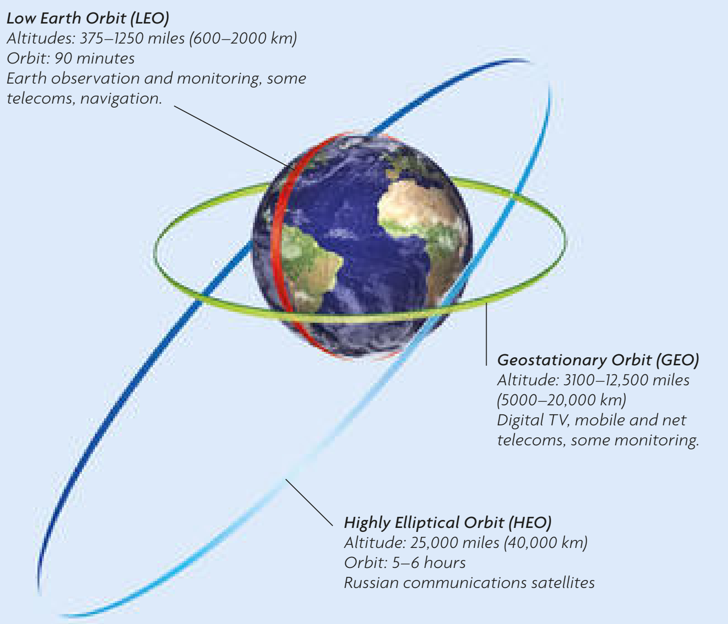


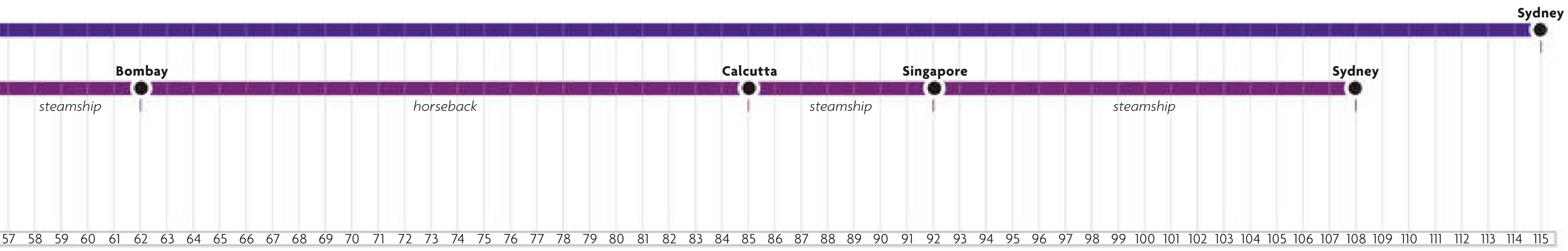


The internet emerged in the early 1990s as a computer-based global communication system. Since then massive growth has seen user numbers increase to around 1.1 billion people, or roughly 17 percent of the world's population.

Satellite Communications

Modern communications satellites are used extensively for international telephony, for television and radio broadcasting, and to some extent for transmitting Internet data. Many of these satellites are deployed in clusters or arrays, often in geostationary orbits—that is, in positions that appear fixed to Earth-based observers.



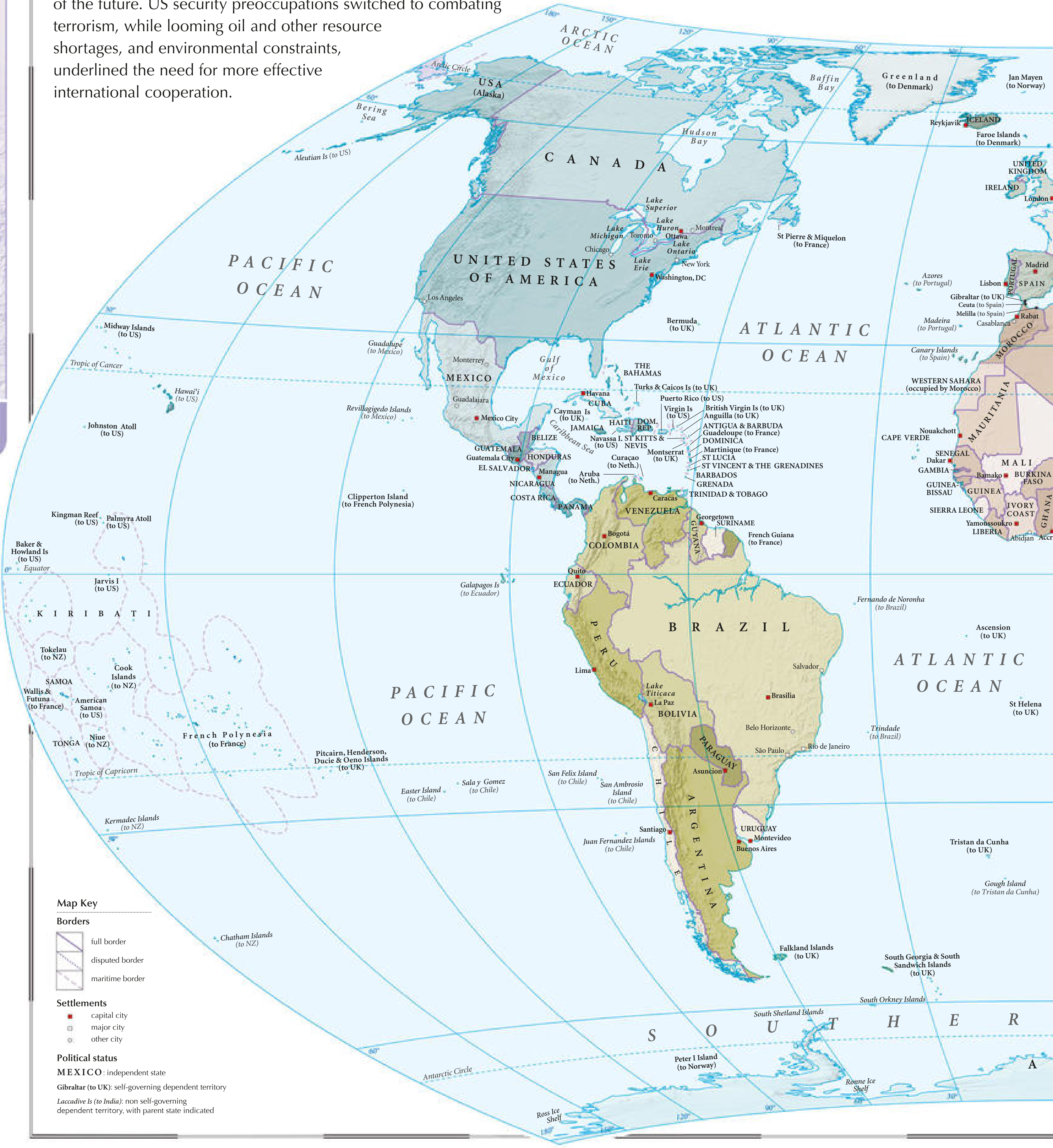


The Political World

Today's world map shows nearly 200 independent states, compared with about 80 after World War II. The transformation is mainly due to the withdrawal of European powers from huge colonial empires; their remaining overseas dependencies are tiny by comparison. The late 20th century also saw the collapse of communism, realignment in Europe, and fragmentation in former Yugoslavia. Globally, the Soviet Union's demise left the USA as the sole superpower, though with fast-growing China and India emerging as economic giants of the future. US security preoccupations switched to combating terrorism, while looming oil and other resource shortages, and environmental constraints, underlined the need for more effective international cooperation.

CONTINENTAL FACTFILE

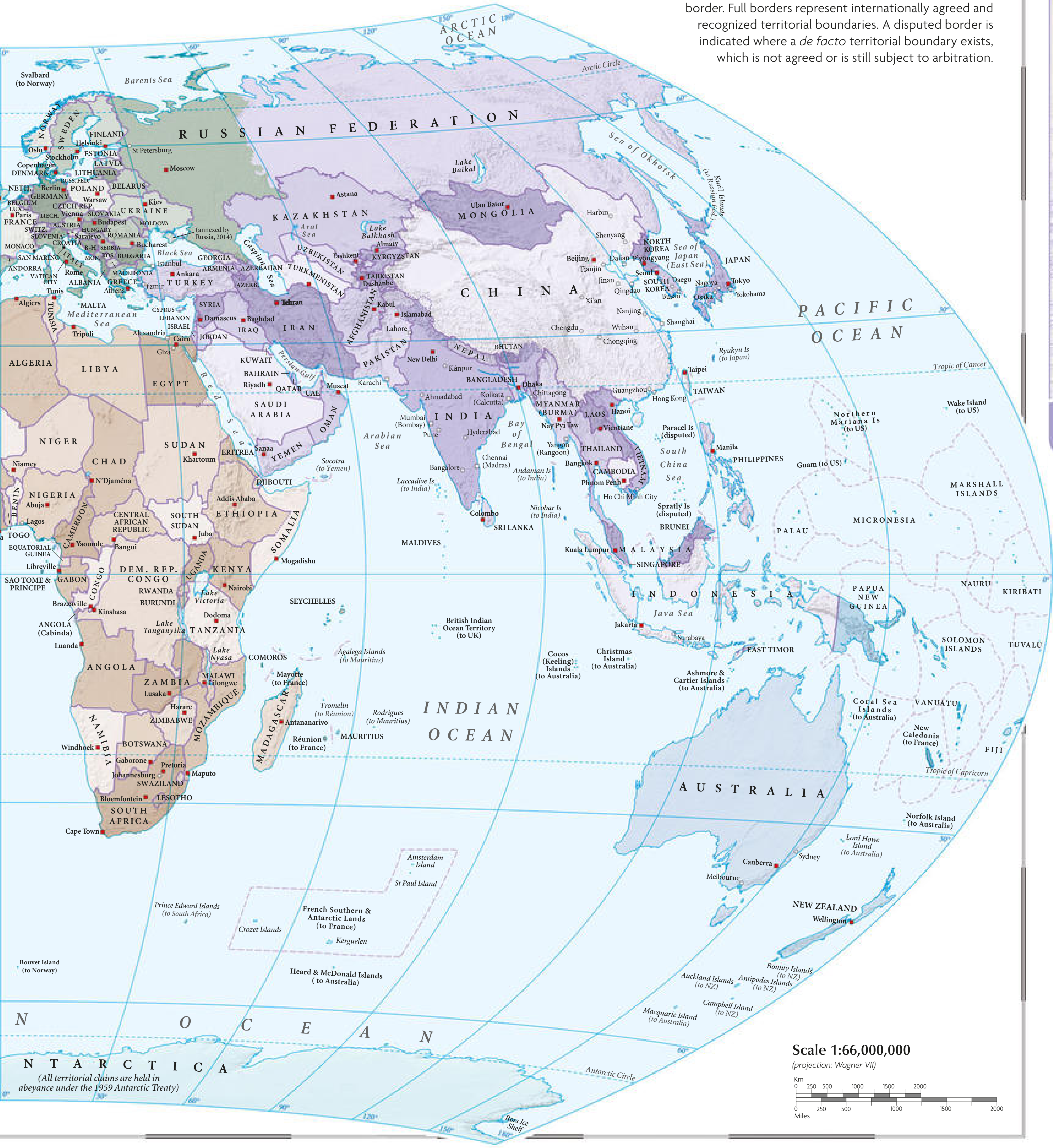
	Total area: sq miles	Total area: sq km	Total population
North & Central America	9,358,340	24,238,000	565.3 million
South America	6,886,000	17,835,000	406.7 million
Africa	11,712,434	30,335,000	1110.6 million
Europe	4,053,309	10,498,000	742.4 million
Asia	16,838,365	43,608,000	4298.7 million
Australia & Oceania	3,285,048	8,508,238	38.3 million



Countries	Largest country	Country with largest population
23	Canada 3,855,171 sq miles (9,984,670 sq km)	United States 323 million
12	Brazil 3,286,470 sq miles (8,511,965 sq km)	Brazil 202 million
54	Algeria 919,590 sq miles (2,381,740 sq km)	Nigeria 178 million
46	European Russia 1,527,341 sq miles (3,955,818 sq km)	European Russia 110 million
49	Asiatic Russia 5,065,394 sq miles (13,119,382 sq km)	China 1394 million
14	Australia 2,967,893 sq miles (7,686,850 sq km)	Australia 24 million

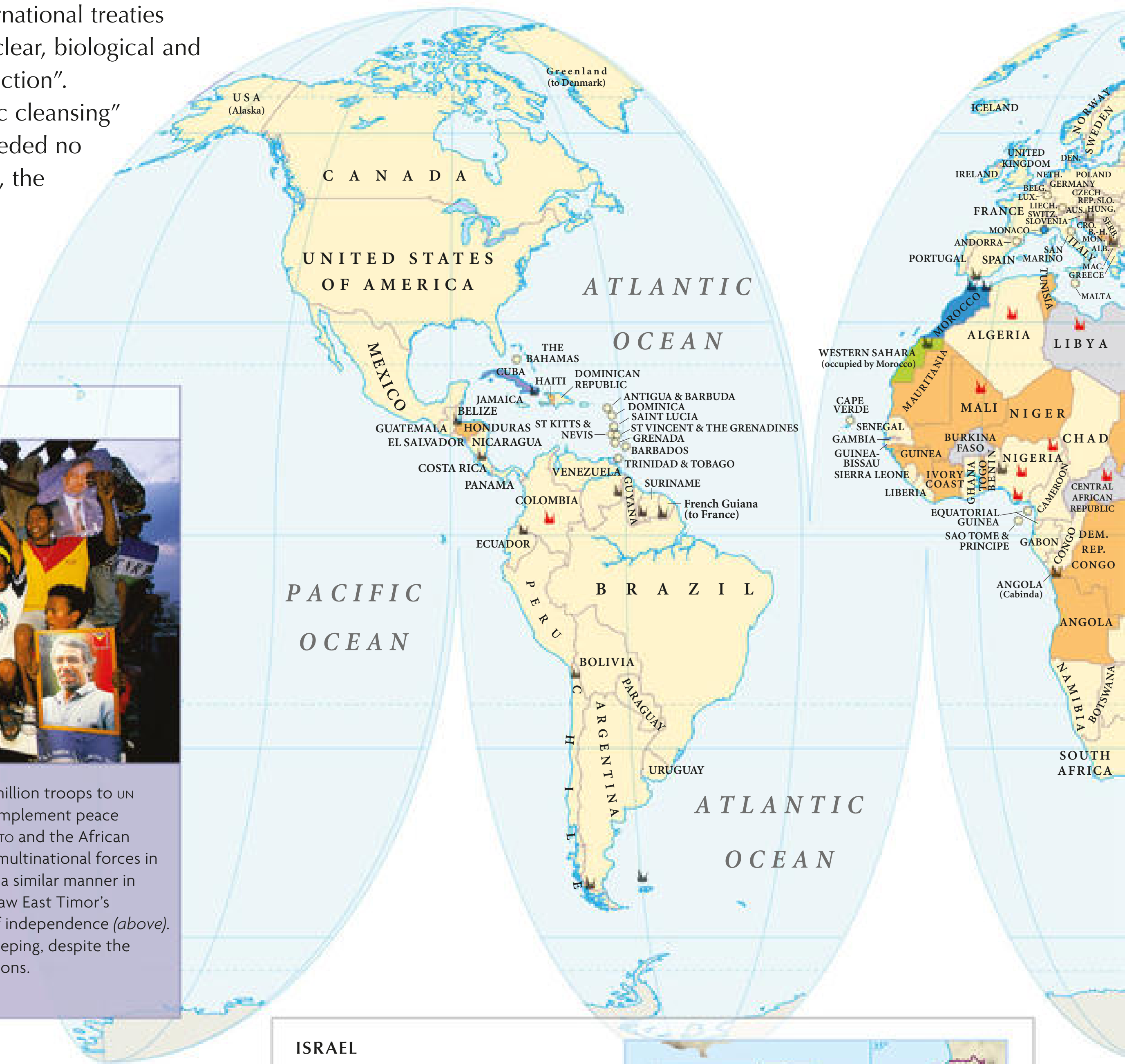
International borders

The world political map of today displays a complex pattern of boundaries that has evolved through history, and is still constantly changing as new countries emerge and disputes and territorial claims are slowly resolved. The map shows two main types of border. Full borders represent internationally agreed and recognized territorial boundaries. A disputed border is indicated where a *de facto* territorial boundary exists, which is not agreed or is still subject to arbitration.



Borders, conflicts and disputes

Conflict evolved in the 20th century from conventional land- or sea-based warfare to increasingly long-range airborne attacks. Nuclear arms from 1945 took this to the intercontinental scale. The Cold War presented a new type of conflict, underlined by the race for weapons capabilities between the US and the Soviet Union. In Korea, Vietnam, the Middle East and elsewhere, soldiers and civilians were exposed to deadly chemicals. International treaties aimed to prevent the spread of nuclear, biological and chemical "weapons of mass destruction". Intercommunal conflict and "ethnic cleansing" reminded the world that horror needed no sophisticated weaponry. After 9/11, the US-led "war on terror" perceived conflict in a new light, where international terrorism knew no borders.



THE PEACEKEEPERS



Over 130 countries have contributed around a million troops to UN missions to monitor peace processes and help implement peace accords since 1948. Regional alliances such as NATO and the African Union (AU) are increasingly deploying their own multinational forces in trouble-spots, while Australia has intervened in a similar manner in nearby Pacific island states. Peacekeepers oversaw East Timor's elections in 2001 and subsequent celebration of independence *(above)*. The US defines many of its activities as peacekeeping, despite the confrontational nature of some of its interventions.

DARFUR

African ethnic minorities in Darfur in western Sudan have suffered appalling violence since 2003 at the hands of genocidal Arab Janjaweed militias, for which the government in Khartoum denies responsibility. Displaced in their hundreds of thousands, refugees receive inadequate protection and aid from an international community unwilling to commit to full-scale intervention.



Darfur conflict

- *Fur* ethnic group
- arabic speaking area
- villages destroyed by Janjaweed
- towns that have been attacked by rebels opposing the Sudanese government

ISRAEL

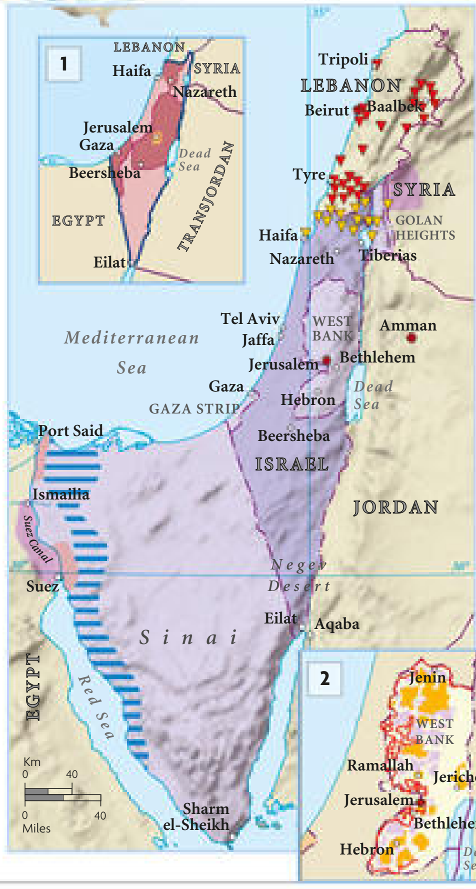
Since its creation in 1948, Israel has been at war with its Arab neighbors. The Palestinians are fighting for a separate, viable state, comprising of at least East Jerusalem, and the West Bank and Gaza Strip, territories occupied by Israel in 1967. Their struggle *(intifada)* has attracted international support, but has been met by a hard-line response from Israel, which is backed by the US.

Arab-Israeli Wars 1947-2006

MAIN MAP: Arab-Israeli Wars
- Israel in 1949
- occupied by Israel after 1967 war
- occupied by Israel after 1973 war
- occupied by Israel after 1967 war reoccupied by Egypt after 1973 war
- demilitarized zone held by UN after Israel-Syria agreement, 1974, and 2nd Sinai agreement, 1975
- Hezbollah rocket attacks 2006
- Israeli rocket attacks 2006
- disputed border

INSET MAP 1: UN Partition plan in 1947
- border of British mandate 1923
- proposed Arab State
- proposed Jewish State
- proposed international zone

INSET MAP 2: West Bank security
- Palestinian responsibility for civil affairs and internal security
- Palestinian responsibility for civil affairs; Israel responsible for security
- Security Wall (existing and planned)



Conflicts and international disputes

- Major active territorial or border disputes
- Countries involved in internal conflict
- Active territorial or border disputes and internal conflict

Types of government

- Multiparty democracy for more than 10 yrs
- Multiparty democracy within last 10 yrs
- Single-party government
- Military regime
- Theocracy
- Monarchy
- Non-party system
- Transitional regime



GULF CONFLICTS

Although the West armed Saddam Hussein in the brutal 1980s Iran-Iraq War, his unprovoked invasion of Kuwait in 1990 was decried the world over. A US-led coalition, including Arab states, repelled his troops but left him in power. A decade of sanctions followed until, in 2003, Saddam was finally toppled by US-led forces. Following elections in 2005, Iraq has struggled to contain a violent insurgency.



Conflict in the Persian Gulf

Iran–Iraq War (1980–88)

- Iraqi invasion force Sep–Nov 1980
- Iranian invasion force Oct 1984
- air strike 1980–88

Persian Gulf War (1990–91)

- Iraqi invasion of Kuwait 1–2 Aug 1990
- Iraqi air base
- Allied air base
- SCUD installation
- Iraqi SCUD missile attacks
- Iraqi weapons plant
- US battleship
- US aircraft carrier
- Allied amphibious attack
- Allied airborne attack
- area of Allied ground combat
- Kurdish region

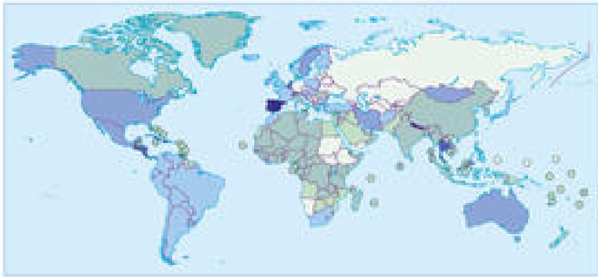
Iraq War from 2003

- Allied air exclusion zone (1991–2003)
- Allied land campaign 2003
- main centres of insurgency 2003–04

Lines on the map

The determination of international boundaries can use a variety of criteria. Many borders between older states follow physical boundaries, often utilizing natural defensive features. Others have been determined by international agreement or arbitration, or simply ended up where the opposing forces stood at the end of a conflict.

WORLD BOUNDARIES



Dates from which current boundaries have existed

- 1990–present
- 1966–1989
- 1946–1965
- 1915–1945
- 1850–1914
- 1800–1849
- Pre-1800

POST-COLONIAL BORDERS



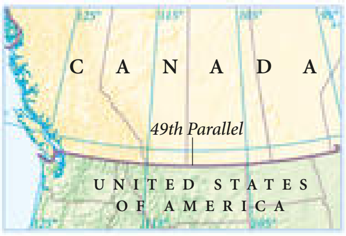
Independent African countries have largely inherited the earlier carve up of the continent by European colonial powers. These often arbitrarily divided or grouped differing ethnic and religious groups which has, in turn, contributed to the tensions that underlie the many civil conflicts that have plagued post-colonial Africa.

ENCLAVES

Changes to international boundaries occasionally create pockets of land cut off from the main territory of the country they belong to. In Europe, Kaliningrad has been separated from the rest of the Russian Federation since the independence of the Baltic States. Likewise, when Morocco was granted independence, Spain retained the coastal enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla.



GEOMETRIC BORDERS



Straight lines and lines of longitude and latitude have occasionally been used to determine international boundaries: the 49th Parallel forms a large section of the Canada–US border, while the 38th Parallel roughly divides the Korean Peninsula. Internal administrative divisions within Canada, the US, and Australia also use geometric boundaries.

PHYSICAL BORDERS

Rivers account for one-sixth of the world's borders: the Danube forms part of the boundaries for nine European nations. Changes in a river's course or disruption of its flow can lead to territorial disputes. Lakes and mountains also form natural borders.

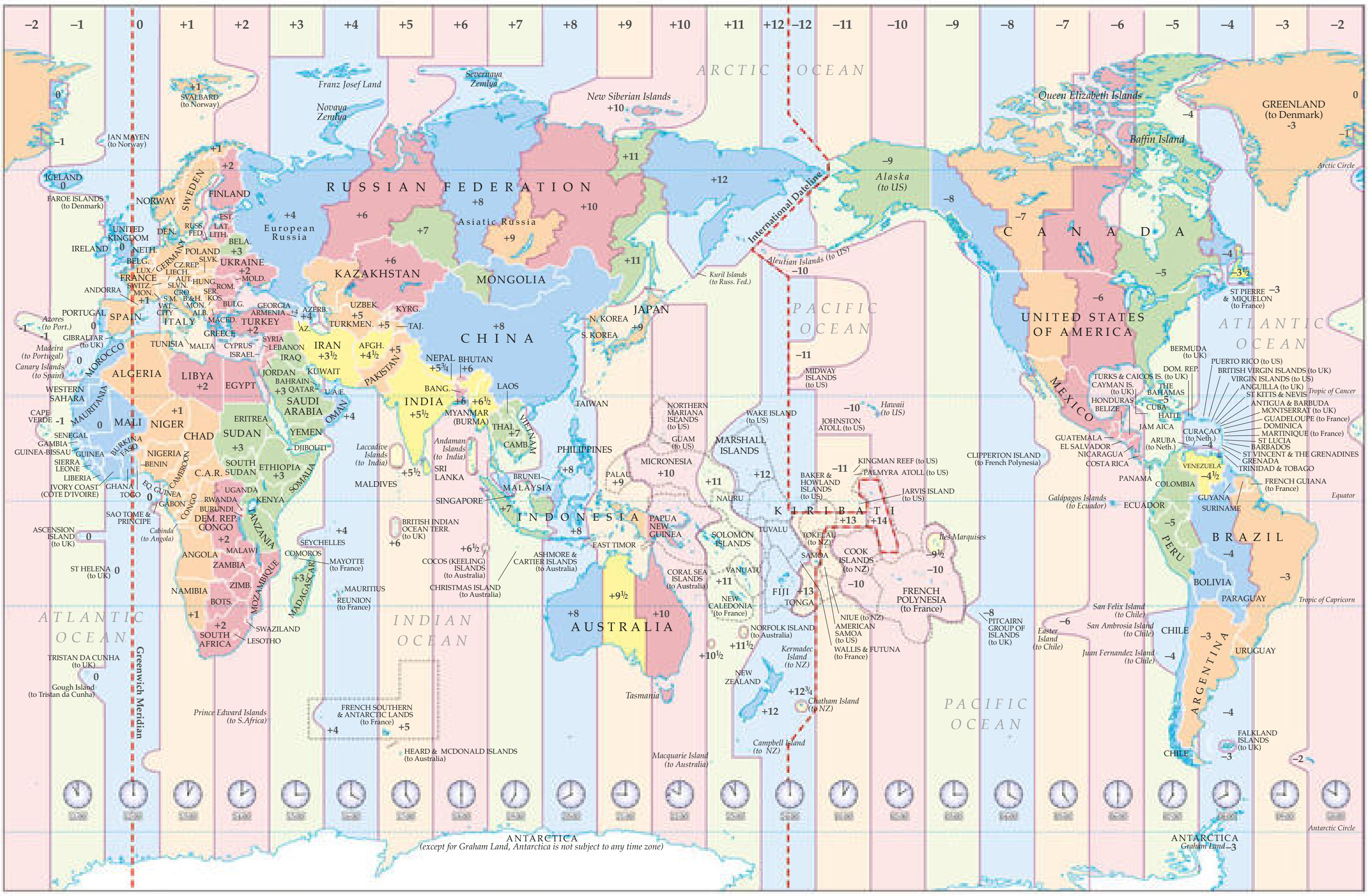
Lake border *(right)*
Mountain border *(below left)*
River border *(below right)*







The World's Standard Time Zones



The numbers at the top of the map indicate how many hours each time zone is ahead or behind Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). The row of clocks indicate the time in each zone when it is 12:00 noon UTC.

TIME ZONES

Because Earth is a rotating sphere, the Sun shines on only half of its surface at any one time. Thus, it is simultaneously morning, evening and night time in different parts of the world *(see diagram below)*. Because of these disparities, each country or part of a country adheres to a local time. A region of Earth's surface within which a single local time is used is called a time zone. There are 24 one hour time zones around the world, arranged roughly in longitudinal bands.

STANDARD TIME

Standard time is the official local time in a particular country or part of a country. It is defined by the time zone or zones associated with that country or region. Although time zones are arranged roughly in longitudinal bands, in many places the borders of a zone do not fall exactly on longitudinal meridians, as can be seen on the map *(above)*, but are determined by geographical factors or by borders between countries or parts of countries. Most countries have just one time zone and one standard time, but some large countries (such as the USA, Canada and Russia) are split between several time zones, so standard time varies across those countries. For example, the coterminous United States straddles four time zones and so has four standard times, called the Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific standard times. China is unusual in that just one standard time is used for the whole country, even though it extends across 60° of longitude from west to east.

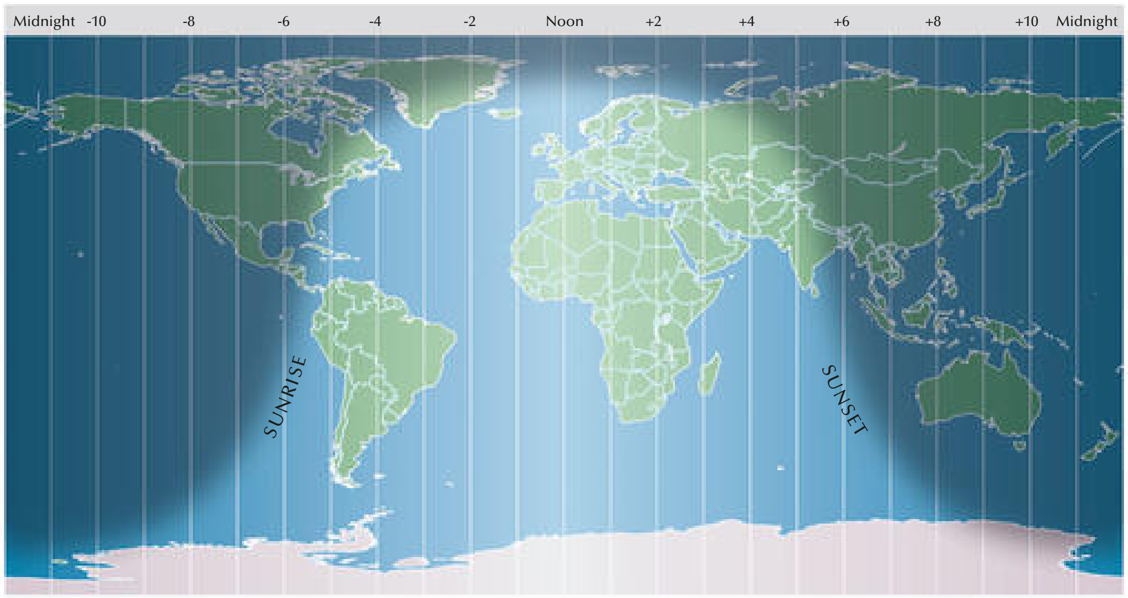
COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME (UTC)

Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is a reference by which the local time in each time zone is set. For example, Australian Western Standard Time (the local time in Western Australia) is set 8 hours ahead of UTC (it is UTC+8) whereas Eastern Standard Time in the United States is set 5 hours behind UTC (it is UTC-5). UTC is a successor to, and closely approximates, Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). However, UTC is based on an atomic clock, whereas GMT is determined by the Sun's position in the sky relative to the 0° longitudinal meridian, which runs through Greenwich, UK.

In 1884 the Prime Meridian (0° longitude) was defined by the position of the cross-hairs in the eyepiece of the "Transit Circle" telescope in the Meridian Building at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, UK.



DAY AND NIGHT AROUND THE WORLD



THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

The International Dateline is an imaginary line from pole to pole that roughly corresponds to the 180° longitudinal meridian. It is an arbitrary marker between calendar days. The dateline is needed because of the use of local times around the world rather than a single universal time. When moving from west to east across the dateline, travelers have to set their watches back one day. Those traveling in the opposite direction, from east to west, must add a day.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Daylight saving is a summertime adjustment to the local time in a country or region, designed to cause a higher proportion of its citizens' waking hours to pass during daylight. To follow the system, timepieces are advanced by an hour on a pre-decided date in spring and reverted back in the fall. About half of the world's nations use daylight saving.

COMPLETE ATLAS OF THE WORLD

THE MAPS IN THIS ATLAS ARE ARRANGED CONTINENT BY CONTINENT, STARTING FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE, AND MOVING EASTWARD. THE MAPS PROVIDE A UNIQUE VIEW OF TODAY'S WORLD, COMBINING TRADITIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES WITH THE LATEST REMOTE-SENSED AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY.



NORTH AMERICA



North America is the world's third largest continent with a total area of 9,358,340 sq miles (24,238,000 sq km) including Greenland and the Caribbean islands. It lies wholly within the Northern Hemisphere.



FACTFILE

N **Most Northerly Point:** Kap Morris Jesup, Greenland 83° 38′ N
S **Most Southerly Point:** Peninsula de Azuero, Panama 7° 15′ N
E **Most Easterly Point:** Nordostrundingen, Greenland 12° 08′ W
W **Most Westerly Point:** Attu, Aleutian Islands, USA 172° 30′ E

Largest Lakes:
1. Lake Superior, Canada/USA 31,151 sq miles (83,270 sq km)
2. Lake Huron, Canada/USA 23,436 sq miles (60,700 sq km)
3. Lake Michigan, USA 22,402 sq miles (58,020 sq km)
4. Great Bear Lake, Canada 12,274 sq miles (31,790 sq km)
5. Great Slave Lake, Canada 10,981 sq miles (28,440 sq km)

Longest Rivers:
1. Mississippi-Missouri, USA 3710 miles (5969 km)
2. Mackenzie, Canada 2640 miles (4250 km)
3. Yukon, Canada/USA 1978 miles (3184 km)
4. St Lawrence/Great Lakes, Canada/USA 1900 miles (3058 km)
5. Rio Grande, Mexico/USA 1900 miles (3057 km)

Largest Islands:
1. Greenland 849,400 sq miles (2,200,000 sq km)
2. Baffin Island, Canada 183,800 sq miles (476,000 sq km)
3. Victoria Island, Canada 81,900 sq miles (212,000 sq km)
4. Ellesmere Island, Canada 75,700 sq miles (196,000 sq km)
5. Newfoundland, Canada 42,031 sq miles (108,860 sq km)

Highest Points:
1. Mount McKinley (Denali), USA 20,332 ft (6194 m)
2. Mount Logan, Canada 19,550 ft (5959 m)
3. Volcán Pico de Orizaba, Mexico 18,700 ft (5700 m)
4. Mount St Elias, USA 18,008 ft (5489 m)
5. Popocatépetl, Mexico 17,887 ft (5452 m)

Lowest Point:
Death Valley, USA -282 ft (-86 m) below sea level

Highest recorded temperature:
Death Valley, USA 135°F (57°C)

Lowest recorded temperature:
Northice, Greenland -87°F (-66°C)

Wettest Place:
Vancouver, Canada 262 in (6650 mm)

Driest Place:
Death Valley, USA 2 in (50 mm)



Cross-section from San Francisco to Washington DC

line of cross-section

NORTH AMERICA – Political

Political

Democracy is well established in some parts of the continent but is a recent phenomenon in others. The economically dominant nations of Canada and the USA have a long democratic tradition but elsewhere, notably in the countries of Central America, political turmoil has been more common. In Nicaragua and Haiti, harsh dictatorships have only recently been superseded by democratically-elected governments. North America's largest countries—Canada, Mexico, and the USA—have federal state systems, sharing political power between national and state or provincial governments. The USA has intervened militarily on several occasions in Central America and the Caribbean to protect its strategic interests.

Transportation

In the 19th century, railroads were used to open up the North American continent. Air transport is now more common for long distance passenger travel, although railroads are still extensively used for bulk freight transport. Waterways, like the Mississippi River, are important for the transport of bulk materials, and the Panama Canal is a vital link between the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean. In the 20th century, road transportation increased massively in North America, with the introduction of cheap, mass-produced cars and extensive highway construction.



Transportation

- major roads and motorways
- major railroads
- major canals
- international borders
- transport intersections
- international airports
- major ports

Standard of living
(UN human development index)

high

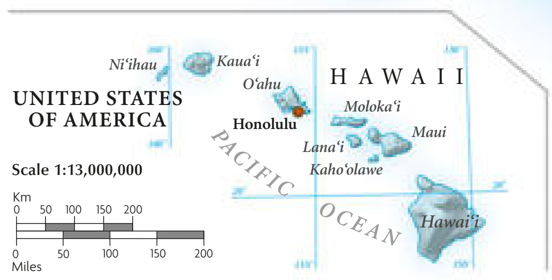
low



Standard of living

The USA and Canada have one of the highest overall standards of living in the world. However, many people still live in poverty, especially in inner city ghettos and some rural areas. Central America and the Caribbean are markedly poorer than their wealthier northern neighbors Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere.



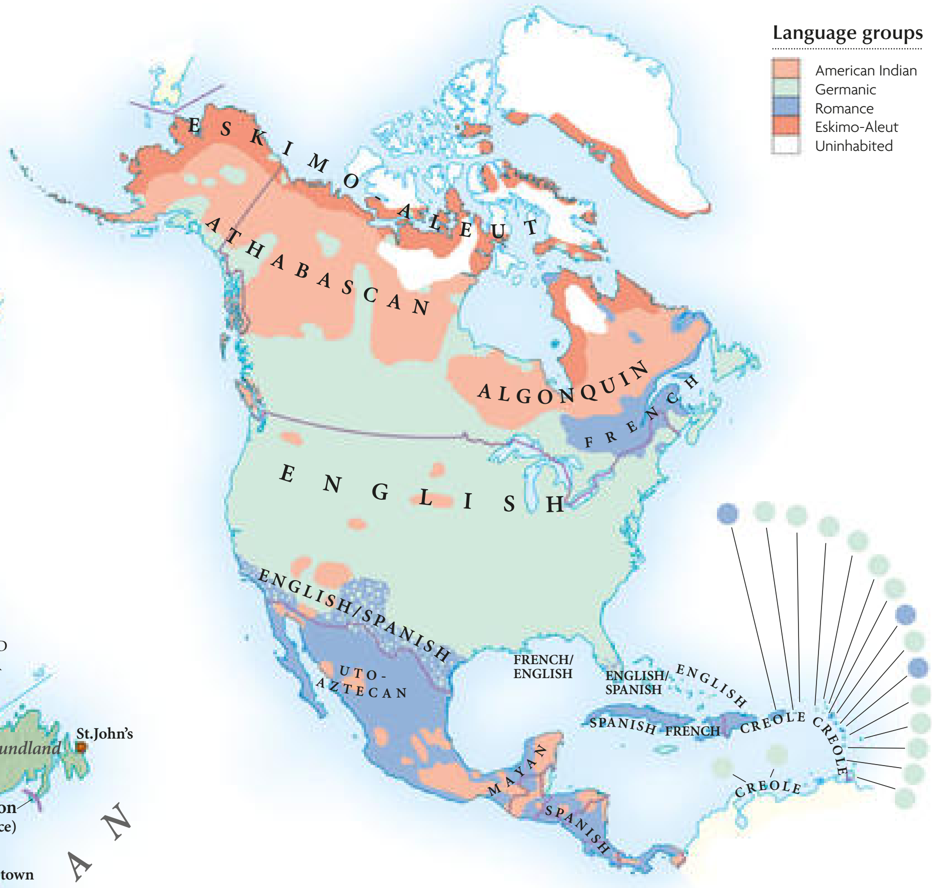




Scale 1:30,750,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

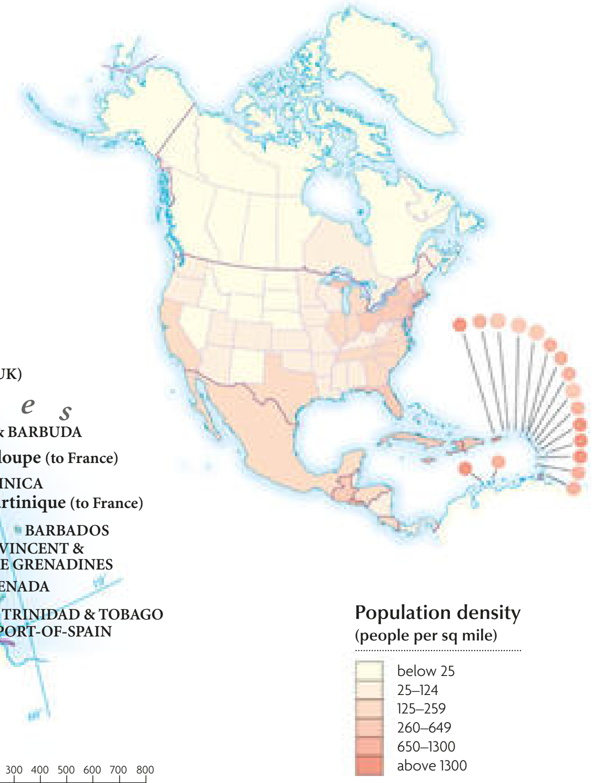
Languages

The three major official languages of North America are of European origin, brought by settlers in the 16th century. In Canada, French and English are spoken; in the USA, English is the main language, with large Spanish-speaking areas in the southwest; Mexicans are Spanish-speaking; while the Caribbean islands use French, English, and Spanish as well as the hybrid Creole tongues. In isolated areas, languages of the indigenous peoples still exist, such as Inuit in the far north of the continent.



Population

Much of North America is almost empty, especially the frozen far north. Population densities are highest in the highlands of Mexico and Central America; the coastal plain stretching from the Gulf of Mexico along the Atlantic coast; the Great Lakes area; and the Pacific coast. Large conurbations have developed, notably the San-San (San Francisco–San Diego), Boswash (Boston–Washington) and Main Street (Toronto–Montréal). The populations of the Caribbean islands are small, but settlement is dense, due to the limited amount of land available.



NORTH AMERICA – **Physical**



Scale 1:33,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 Km

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 Miles

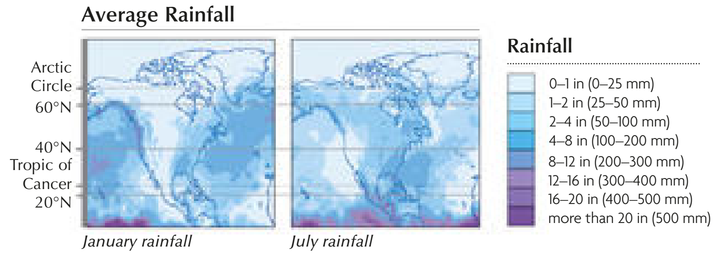
Environmental Issues

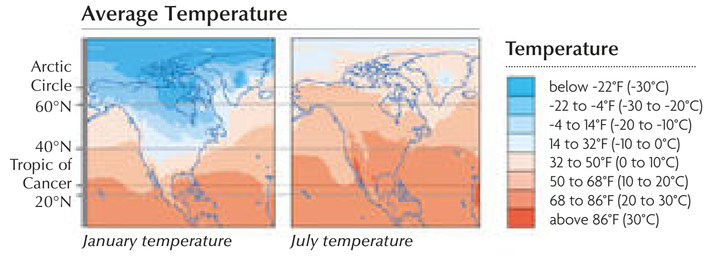
Many fragile environments are under threat throughout the region. In Haiti, all the primary rain forest has been destroyed, while air pollution from factories and cars in Mexico City is among the worst in the world. Elsewhere, industry and mining pose threats, particularly in the delicate arctic environment of Alaska where oil spills have polluted coastlines and decimated fish stocks.



Climate

North America's climate includes extremes ranging from freezing Arctic conditions in Alaska and Greenland, to desert in the southwest, and tropical conditions in southeastern Florida, the Caribbean, and Central America. Central and southern regions are prone to severe storms including tornadoes and hurricanes.









Land use

Abundant land and fertile soils stretch from the Canadian prairies to Texas creating North America's agricultural heartland. Cereals and cattle ranching form the basis of the farming economy, with corn and soybeans also important. Fruit and vegetables are grown in California using irrigation, while Florida is a leading producer of citrus fruits. Caribbean and Central American countries depend on cash crops such as bananas, coffee, and sugar cane, often grown on large plantations. This reliance on a single crop can leave these countries vulnerable to fluctuating world crop prices.

NORTH AMERICA



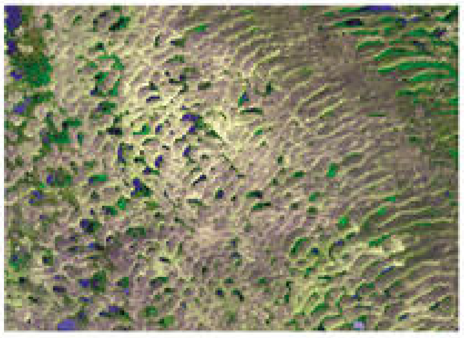
1 VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
Canada's premier west coast city occupies the delta of the Fraser river, formed among the Coast Mountains.



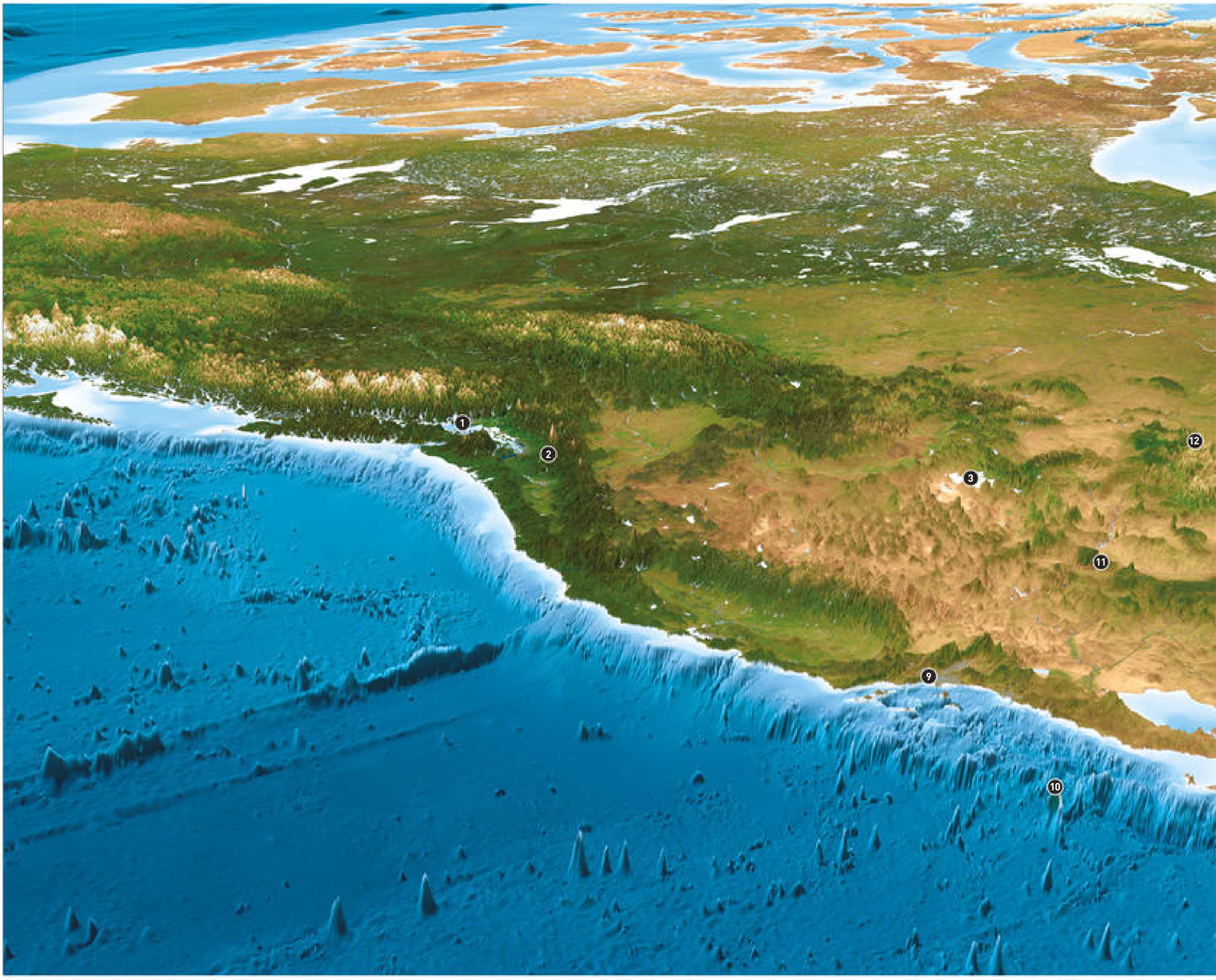
2 MOUNT SAINT HELENS, WASHINGTON, USA
In 1980, this volcano's catastrophic eruption devastated 270 sq miles (700 sq km) of forest almost instantly.



3 GREAT SALT LAKE, UTAH, USA
A causeway carries a railroad, blocking circulation between the northern and southern parts, the water reddened by bacteria in the more saline north.



4 SAND HILLS, NEBRASKA, USA
Forming the largest sand sea in the Western Hemisphere, these hills are not classified as desert because today's relatively wet climate has allowed grasses to take hold.



9 LOS ANGELES AND LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, USA
Taken together, these west coast cities constitute the busiest seaport in the United States.



10 ISLA GUADALUPE, MEXICO
The volcanic island, 186 miles (300 km) off the west coast of Mexico, is a protected wildlife reserve.

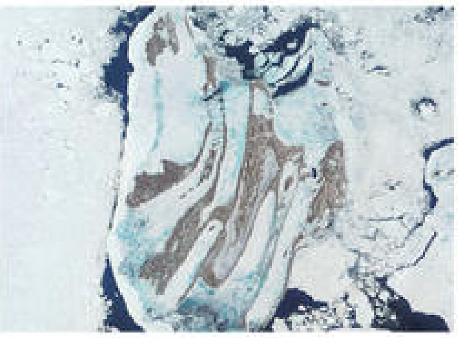


11 GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA, USA
The 5250 ft (1600 m) deep canyon cuts through the Kaibab Plateau in this southwest-looking view.



12 DENVER, COLORADO, USA
Colorado's state capital nestles under the Rocky Mountains with the South Platte River running through its center.





BELCHER ISLANDS, NUNAVUT, CANADA 5
These low-lying, treeless, and sparsely-populated islands lie icebound in Hudson Bay for much of the year.



MISSISSIPPI, MISSOURI, AND ILLINOIS RIVERS, USA 6
This Infrared image shows how these rivers burst their banks in many places after heavy rains in the summer of 1993, leading to the area's worst floods on record.



RÉSERVOIR MANICOUAGAN, QUÉBEC, CANADA 7
This unusual 62 mile (100 km) diameter annular lake occupies the low ground between the rim and central uplift of an ancient meteorite crater.



NEW YORK CITY, USA 8
The largest city in the United States, with a population of over 8 million, it is also the country's main financial center.



MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA, LOUISIANA, USA 13
This delta has developed a "bird's foot" shape due to the shifting course of the river over the last 6000 years.



FLORIDA, USA 14
This low-lying, subtropical peninsula is home to thousands of lakes that have formed among its limestone "karst" topography.



HAVANA, CUBA 15
Cuba's capital city is home to 2 million people and was founded by the Spanish in 1519 around a natural harbor.

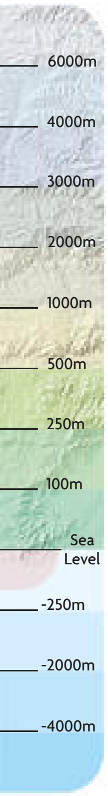


BARRIER REEF, BELIZE 16
The world's second-longest barrier reef lies about 12 miles (20 km) off the coast of Belize.



Canada


193
286
60
ARCTIC OCEAN
Beaufort Sea
Chukchi Sea
Bering Sea
Bering Strait
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ALASKA
Brooks Range
Alaska Range
Kuskokwim Mountains
Alaska Peninsula
Aleutian Range
Bristol Bay
Cook Inlet
Kodiak Island
Gulf of Alaska
PACIFIC OCEAN
Anchorage
Fairbanks
Juneau
Mount McKinley (Denali) 6194m
Mount Logan 5959m
YUKON
Whitehorse
Dawson
Mackenzie Mountains
Selwyn Mountains
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
Yellowknife
Great Bear Lake
Great Slave Lake
Inuvik
Banks Island
Victoria Island
Melville Island
Parry Islands
Queen Elizabeth Islands
Sverdrup Islands
Axel Heiberg Island
Amundsen Gulf
Cambridge Bay (Iqaluktuutiaq)
North Magnetic Pole (2005)
CANADA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
Prince Rupert
Prince George
Queen Charlotte Islands
Vancouver Island
Victoria
Vancouver
Kamloops
Kelowna
Coast Mountains
ALBERTA
Edmonton
Calgary
Red Deer
Lethbridge
Fort McMurray
Lake Athabasca
Rocky Mountains
SASKATCHEWAN
Saskatoon
Regina
MANITOBA
Lake Winnipeg
Seattle
Portland
Spokane
Salem
Boise
WASHINGTON
OREGON
IDAHO
MONTANA
WYOMING
NORTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA
NEBRASKA
CALIFORNIA
NEVADA
UNITED STATES
Vancouver
North Vancouver
Burnaby
Coquitlam
Port Moody
New Westminster
Richmond
Surrey
Langley
Maple Ridge
White Rock
Steveston
Tsawwassen
Point Roberts
Blaine
Birch Bay
Lynden
Ferndale
Marietta
Bellingham
Strait of Georgia
Gulf Islands
Salt Spring Island
Mayne Island
Saturna Island
Pender Islands
Orcas Island
Lummi Island
Waldron Island
Galiano Island
Bowen Island
Gambier Island
Anvil Island
Horseshoe Bay
Cypress Provincial Park
Mount Seymour Provincial Park
Coquitlam Lake
Pitt Lake
Burrard Inlet
Indian Arm
Sea Island
Vancouver Intl. Airport
Fraser River
Boundary Bay
Westham Island
CANADA
USA
0 10 Km
0 10 Miles


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:14,815,000

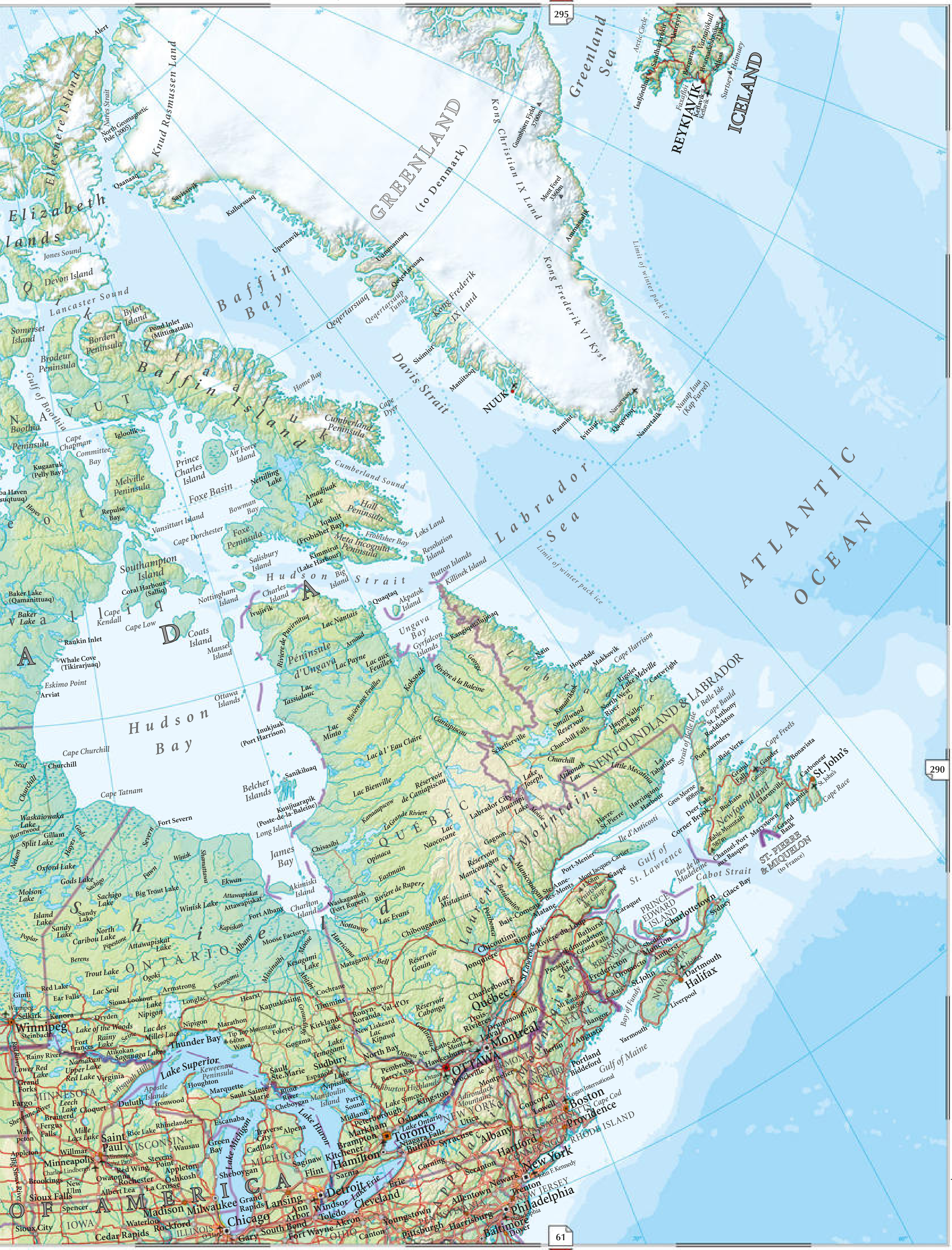
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Km

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Northern Canada



Scale 1:7,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

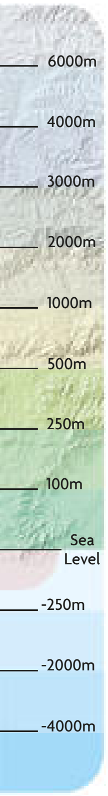
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Western Canada

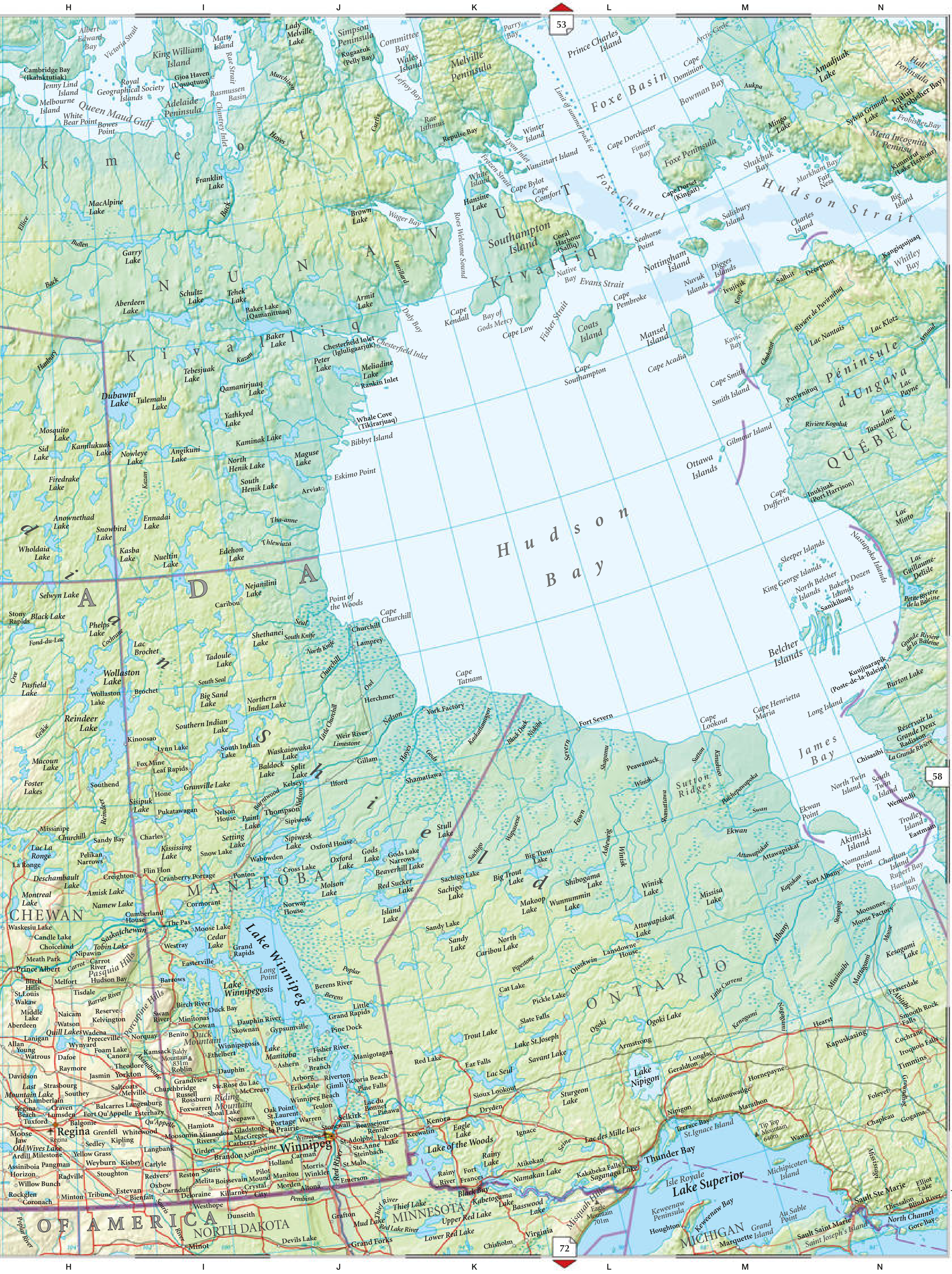




Scale 1:7,500,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

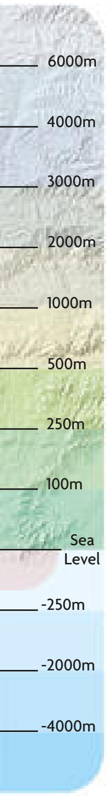
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Southwest Canada





Scale 1:3,750,000

(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft

13,124ft

9843ft

6562ft

3281ft

1640ft

820ft

328ft

Sea Level

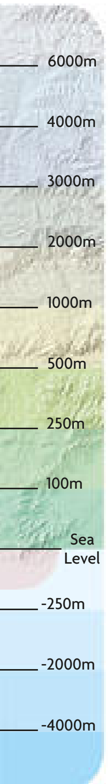
-820ft

-6562ft

-13,124ft

Eastern Canada





Scale 1:7,500,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

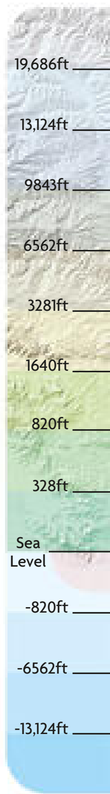
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

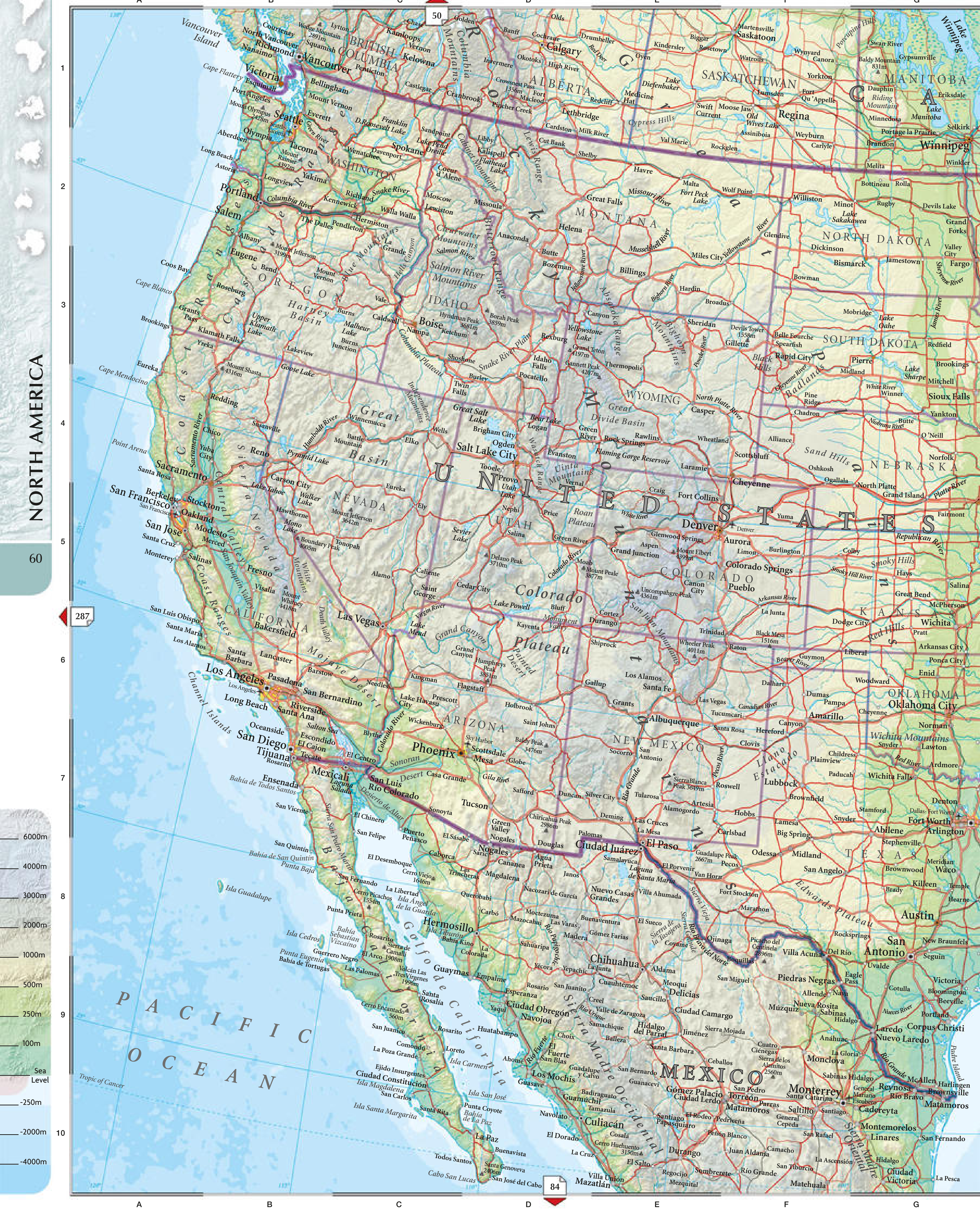
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000







The United States of America



Scale 1:10,250,000

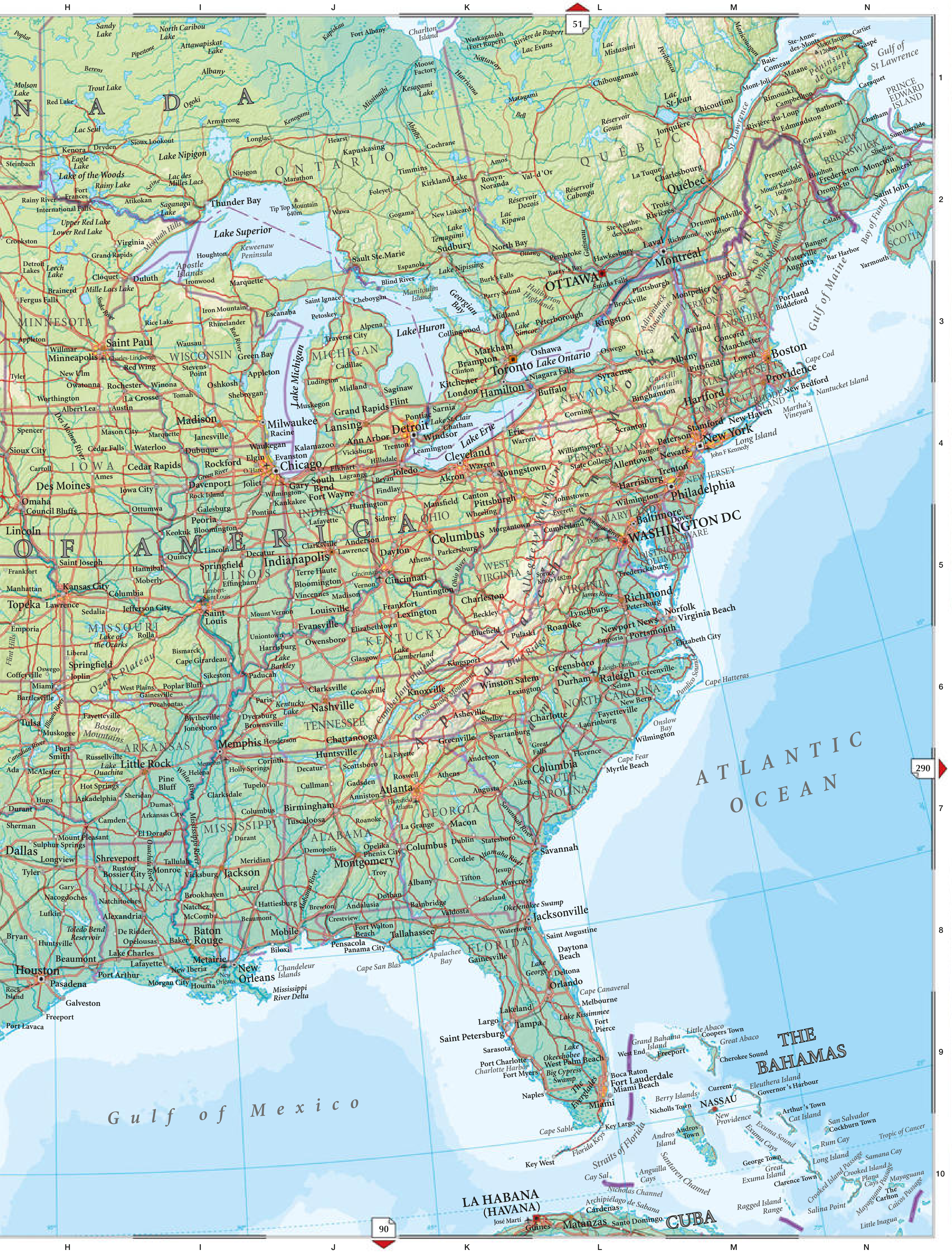
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Km

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Northeast States & Southeast Canada



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:3,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

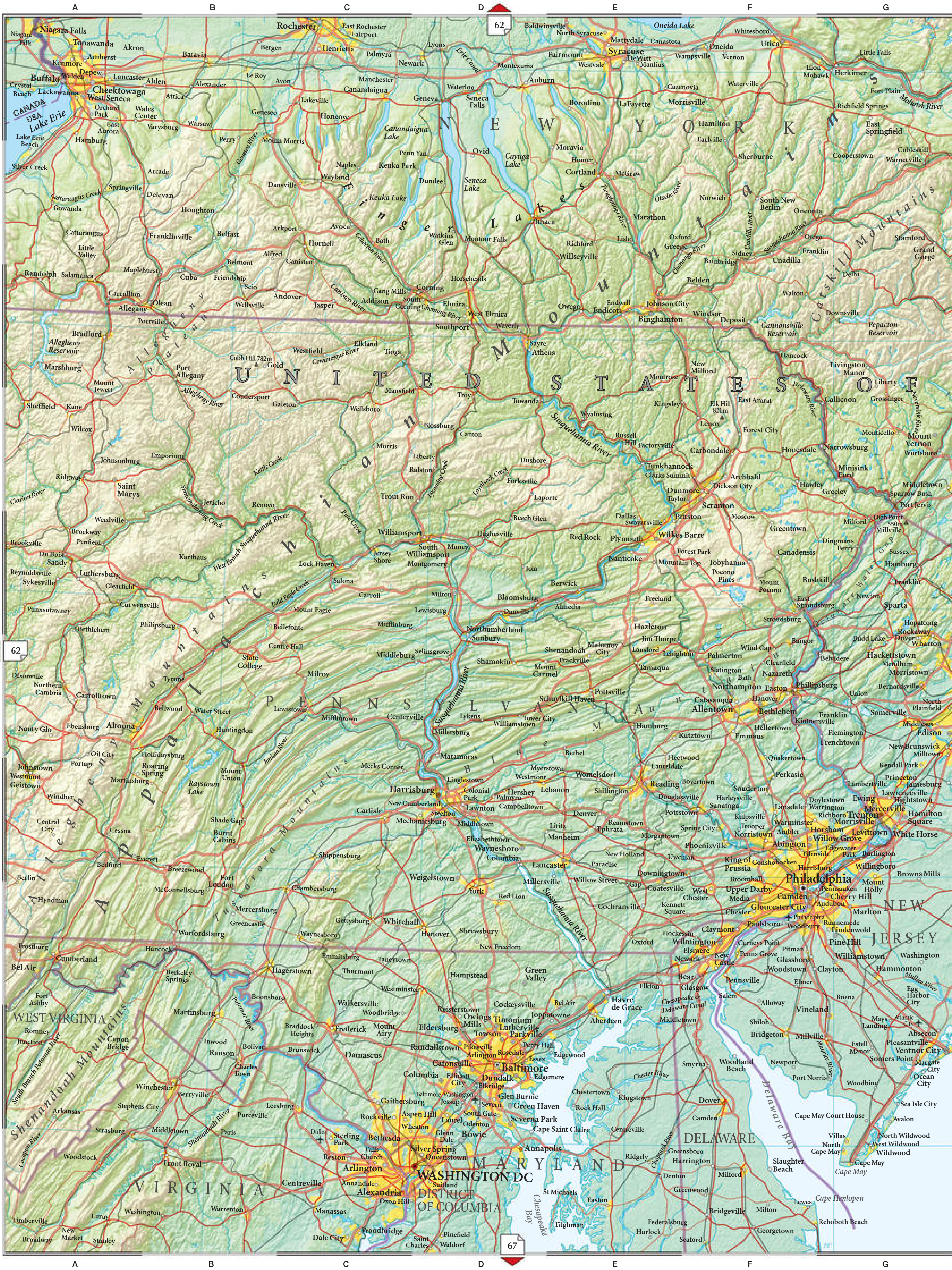
Population
- ▣ above 5 million
- ◼ 1 million to 5 million
- ◉ 500,000 to 1 million
- ◎ 100,000 to 500,000
- ⊕ 50,000 to 100,000
- ○ 10,000 to 50,000
- ○ below 10,000



NORTH AMERICA

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Boston to Washington DC



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:1,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population

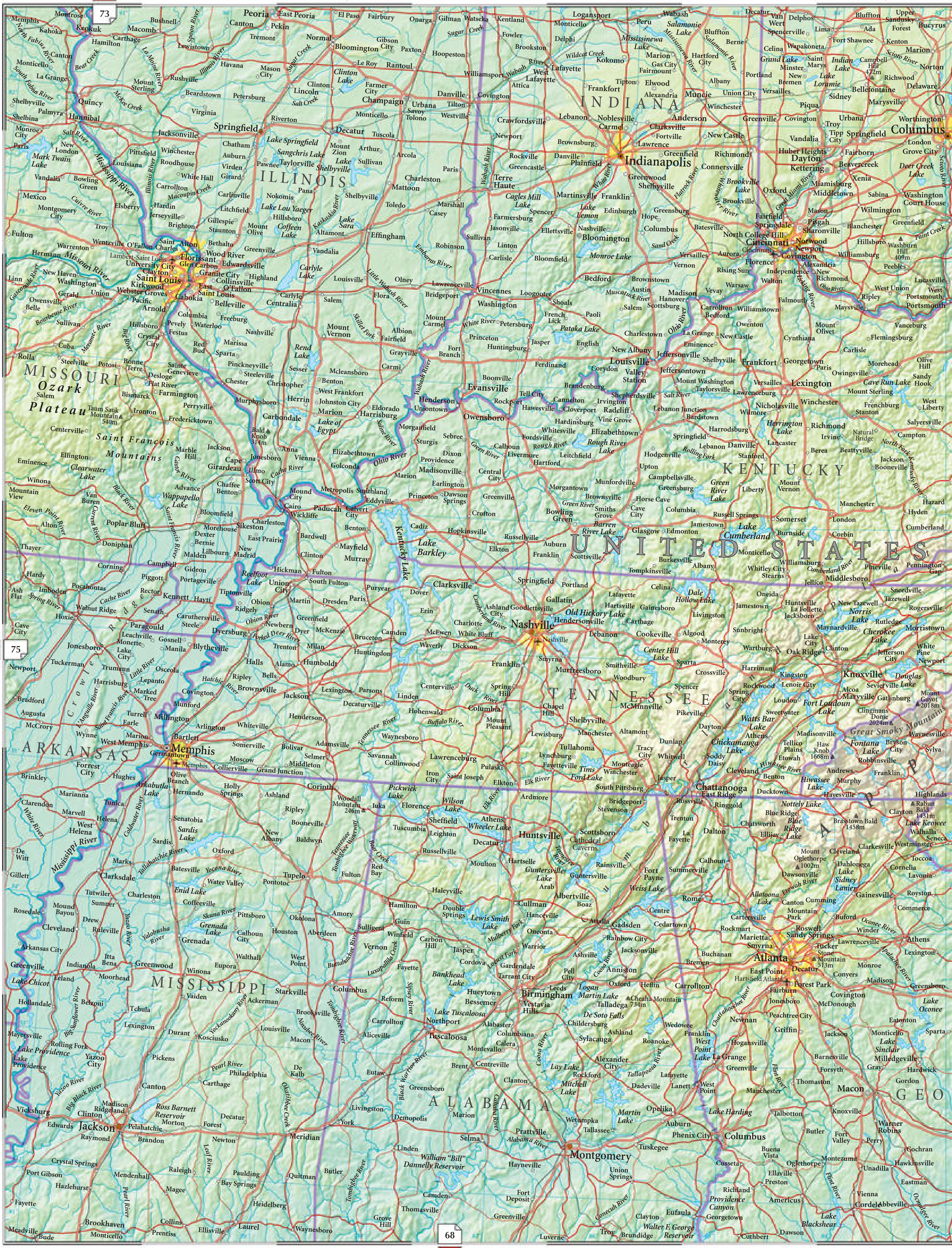
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Eastern States



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

73
75
68

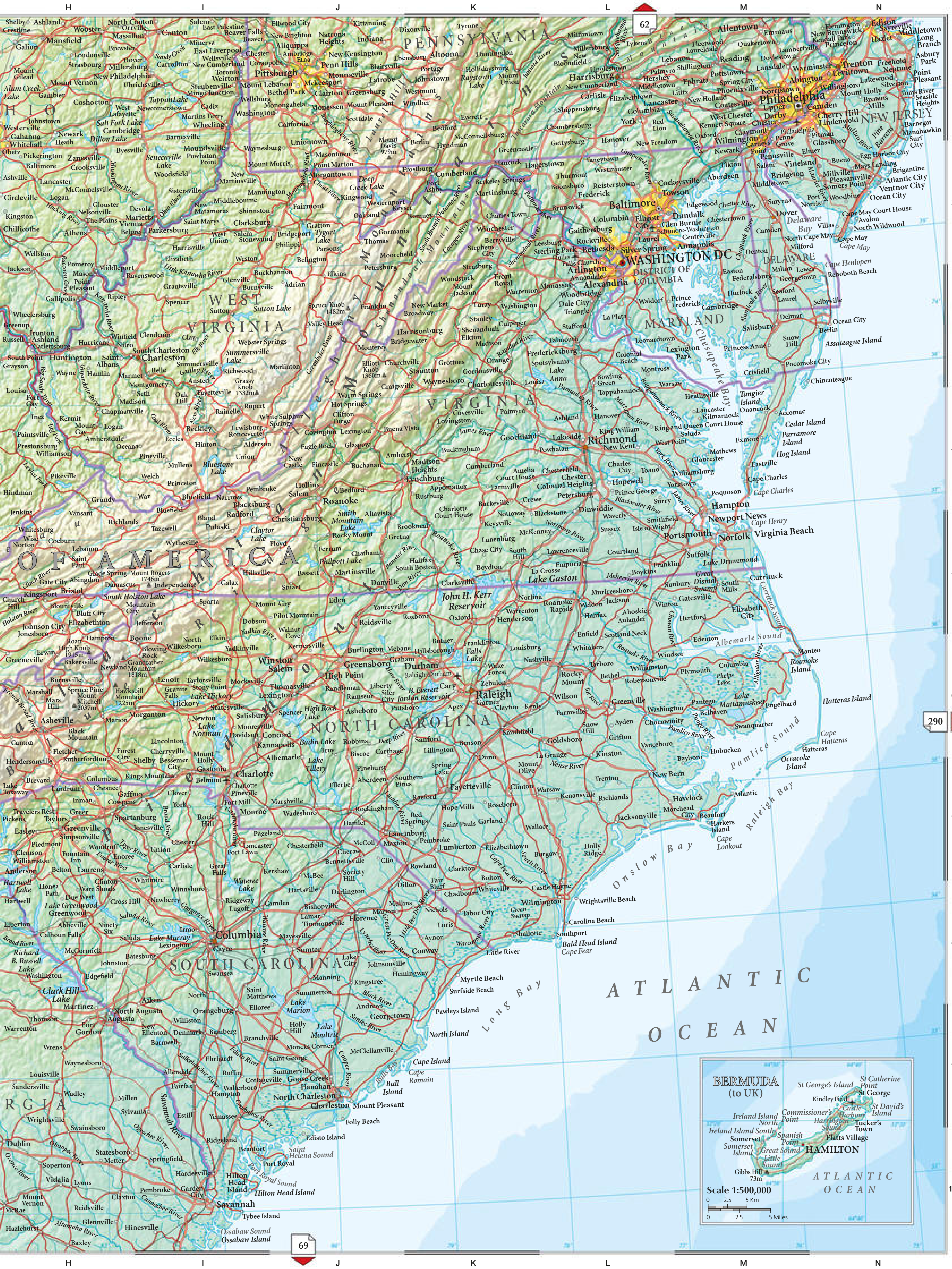
Scale 1:3,000,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



NORTH AMERICA

67

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Southeast States



Scale 1:3,000,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Texas


A
B
C
D
E
F
G
75
84
85
UNITED STATES
MEXICO
NEW MEXICO
CHIHUAHUA
COAHUILA
DURANGO
NUEVO LEÓN
TAMAULIPAS
TEXAS
OKLAHOMA
Rocky Mountains
Sangre de Cristo Mountains
Sacramento Mountains
Edwards Plateau
Balcones Escarpment
Caprock Escarpment
Great Plains
High Plains
Llano Estacado
Stockton Plateau
Sierra Madre Oriental
Sierra Madre Occidental
Bolson de Mapimi
Meseta del Norte
Rio Grande
Rio Bravo del Norte
Pecos River
Red River
Canadian River
Colorado River
Brazos River
Santa Fe
Albuquerque
Amarillo
Lubbock
Oklahoma City
Wichita Falls
Fort Worth
Abilene
Midland
Odessa
El Paso
Ciudad Juárez
San Angelo
Austin
San Antonio
Laredo
Nuevo Laredo
Corpus Christi
Chihuahua
Delicias
Monterrey
Piedras Negras
Monclova
Torreón
Gómez Palacio
Ciudad Lerdo
Reynosa
McAllen
Matamoros
Brownsville

6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:3,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

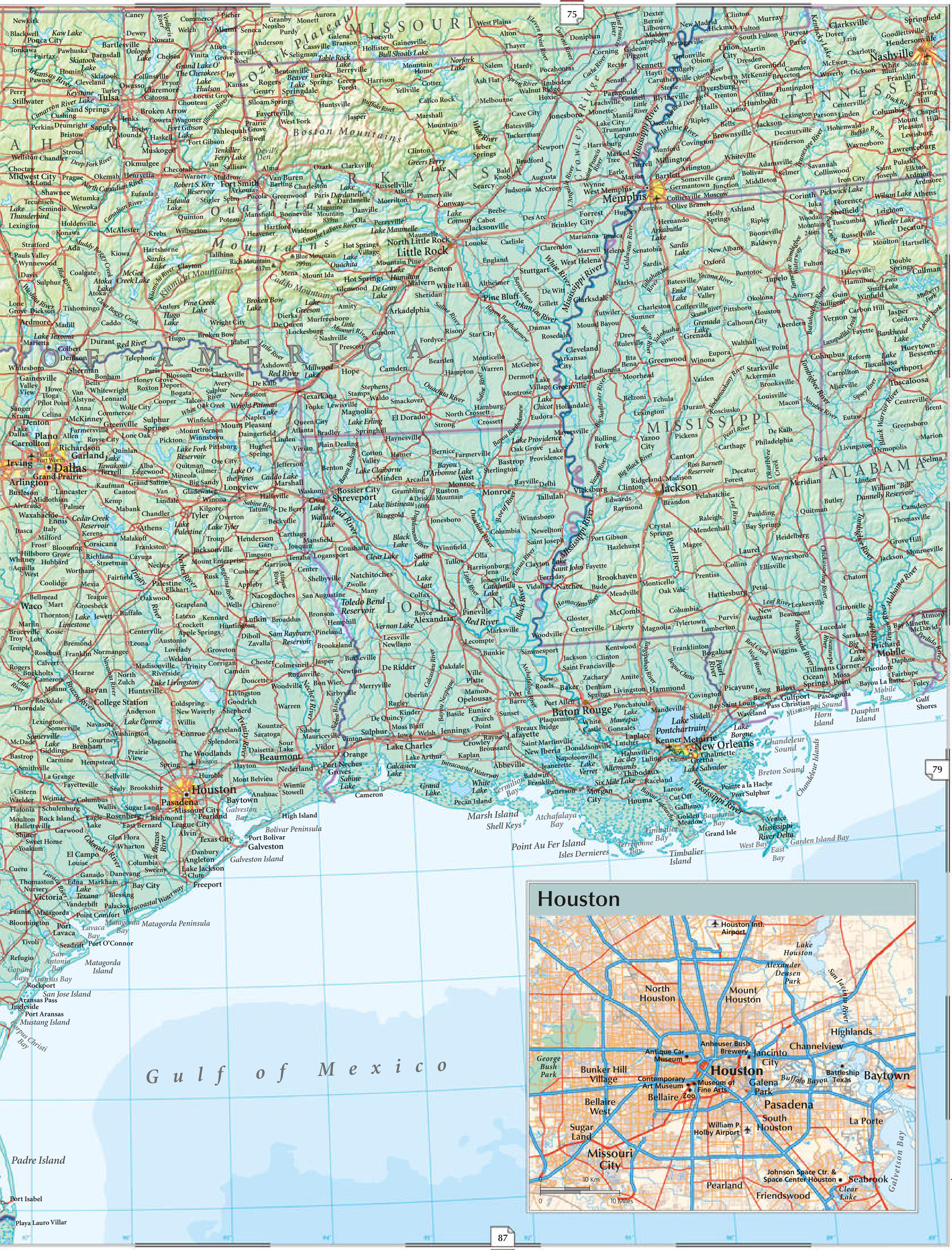
0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

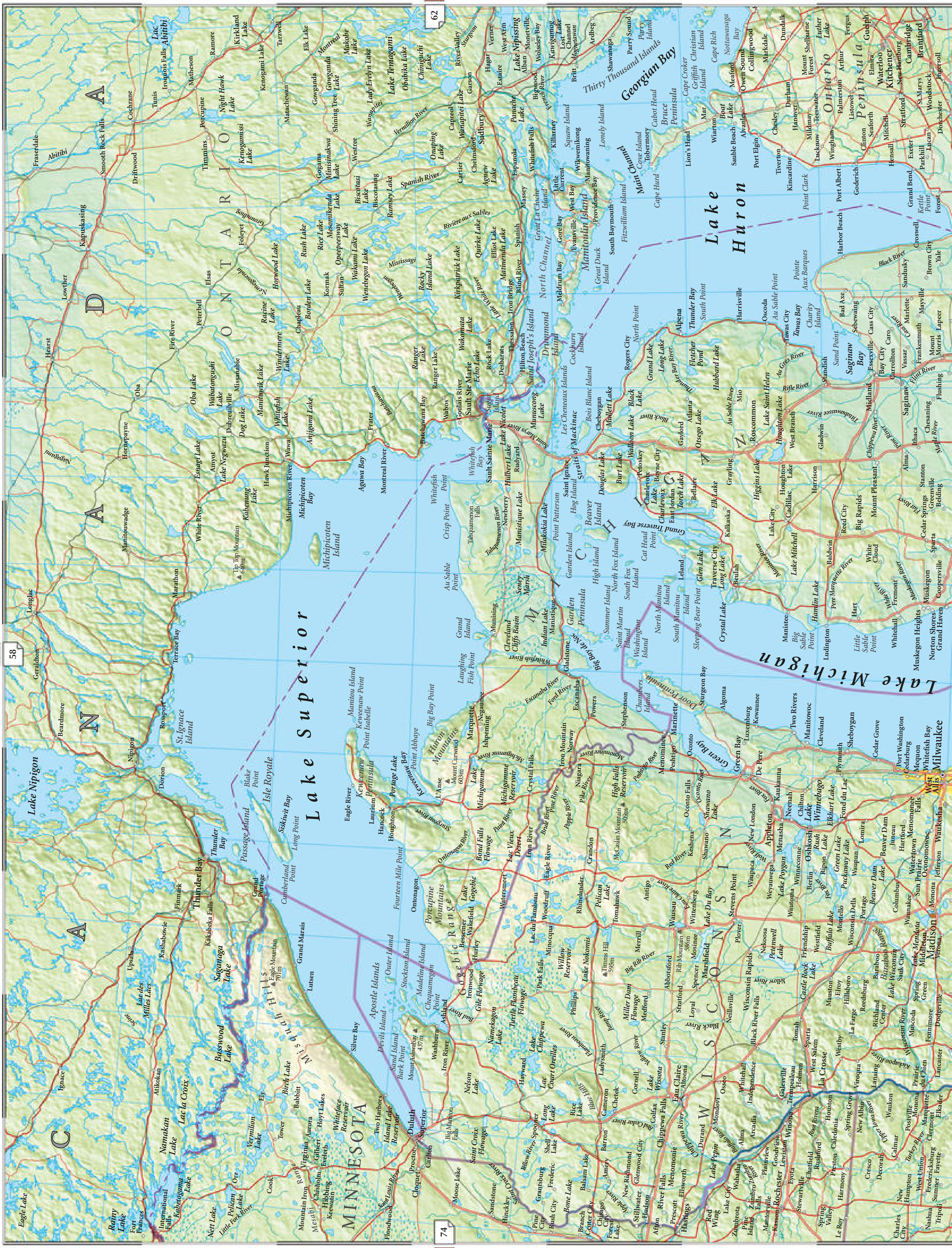
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

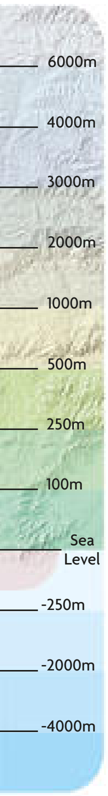




19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Great Lake States

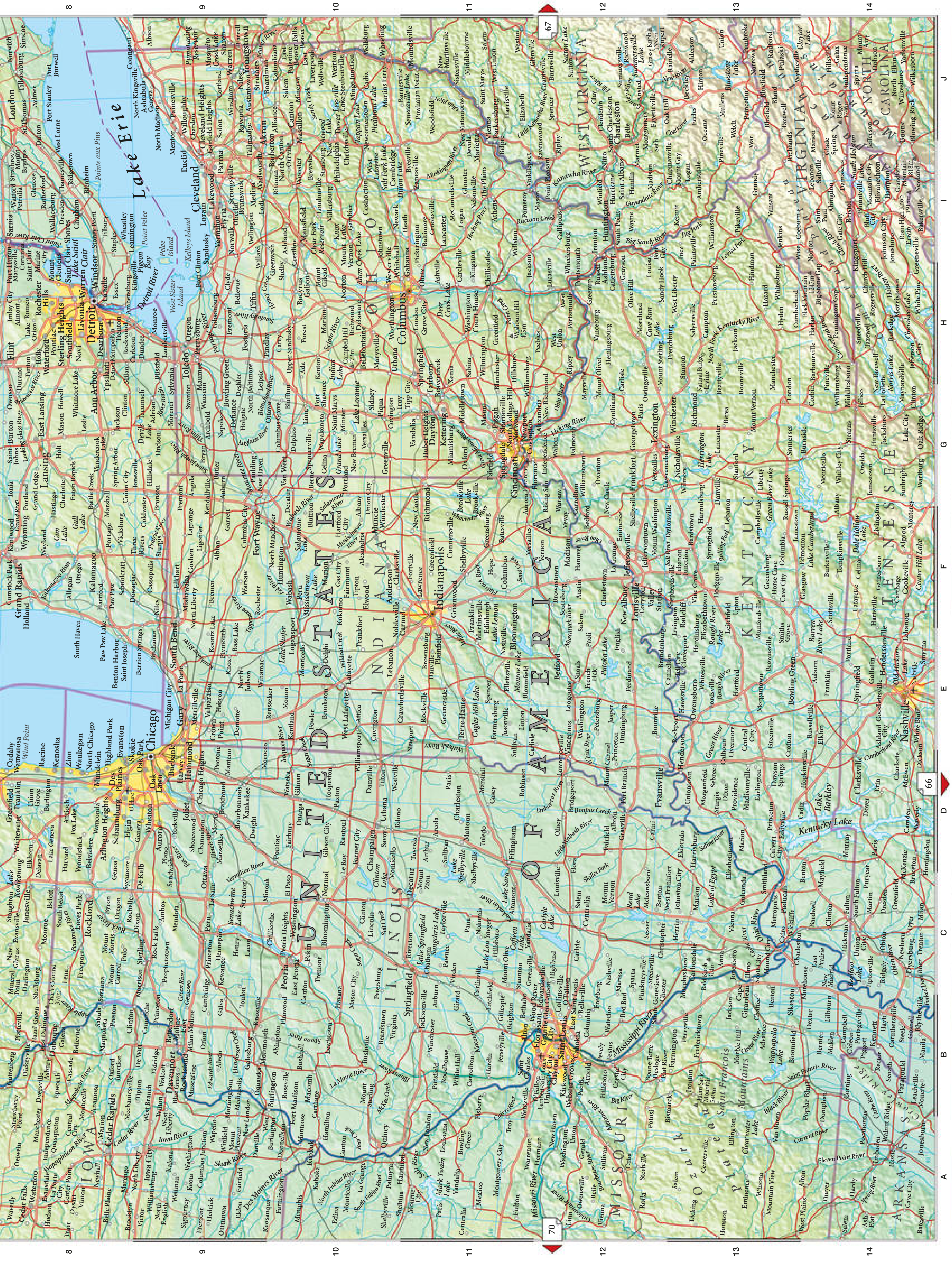




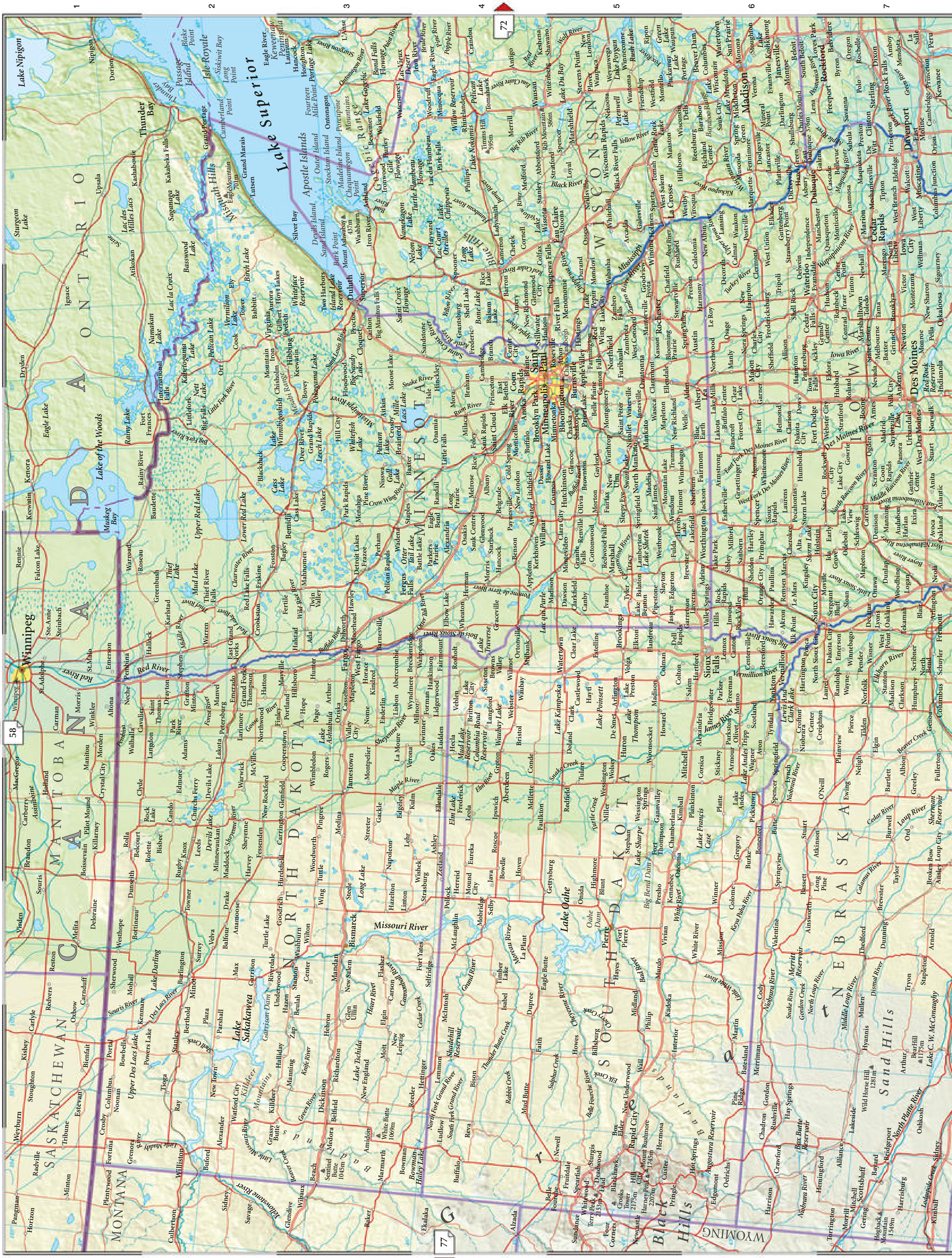
Scale 1:3,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

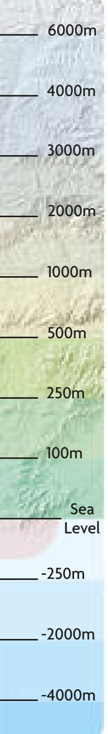
0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



USA – Great Plains States





Scale 1:3,750,000

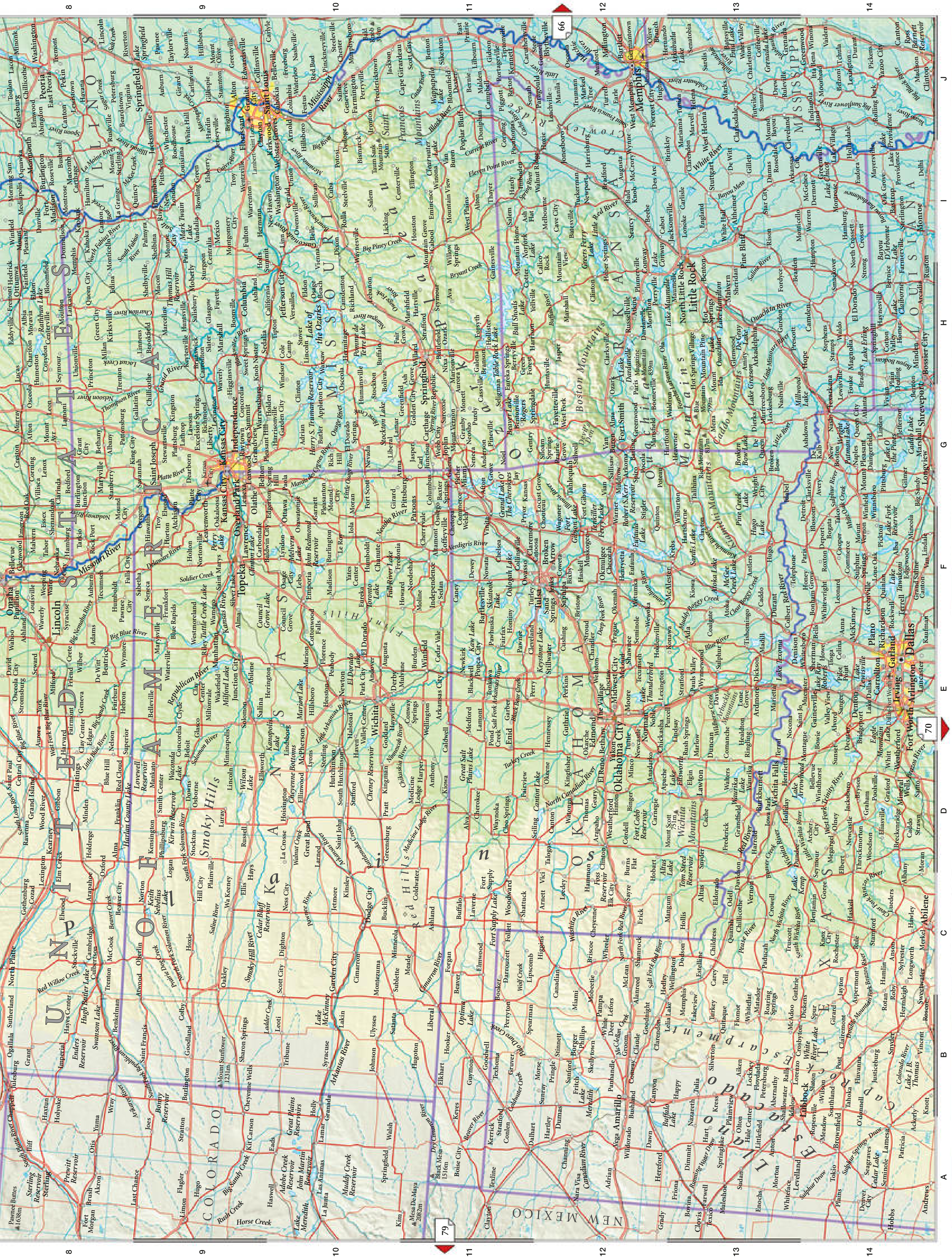
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

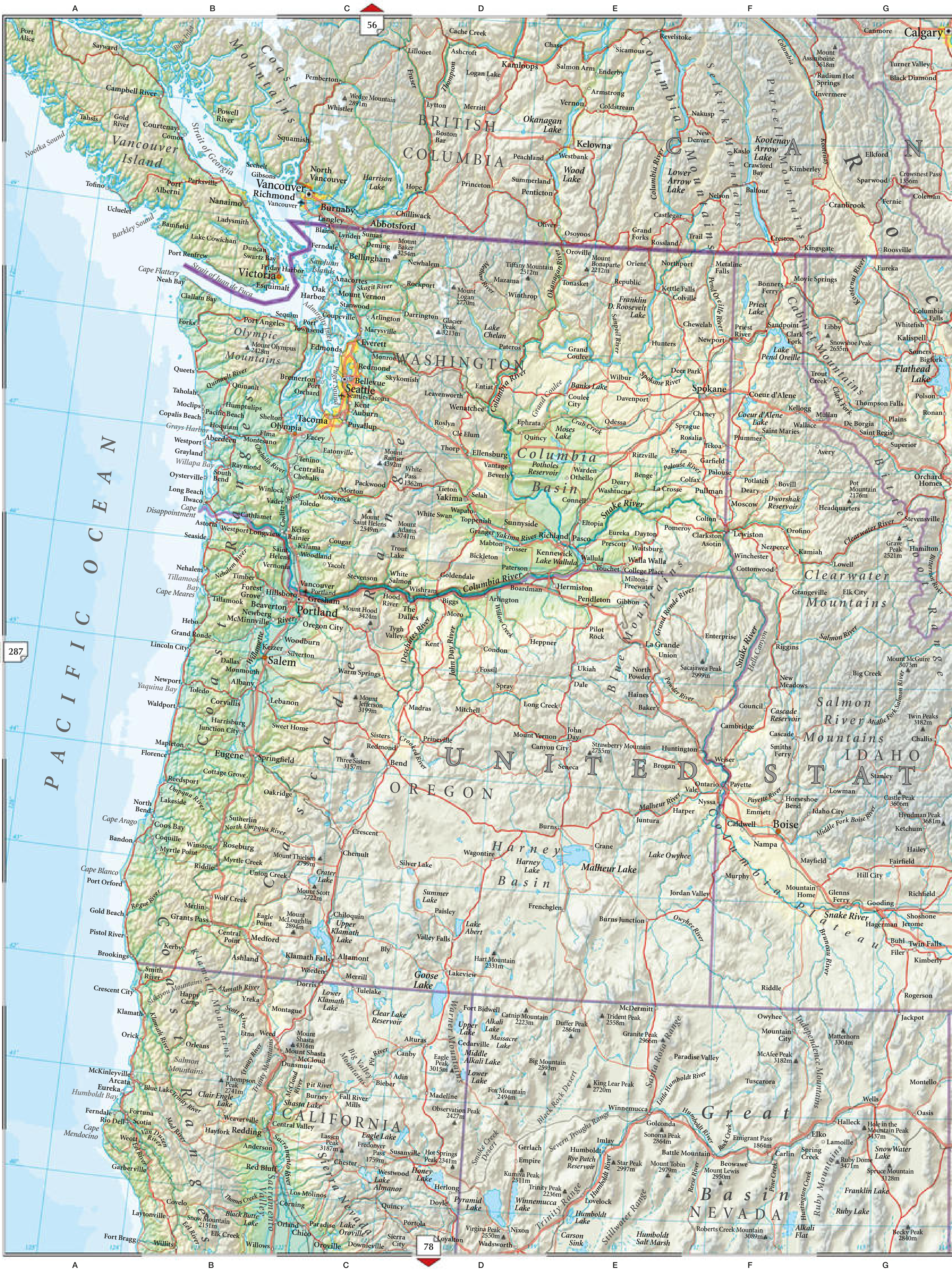
Population

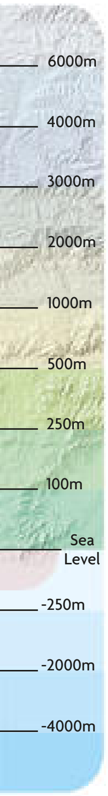
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – Northwest States





Scale 1:3,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

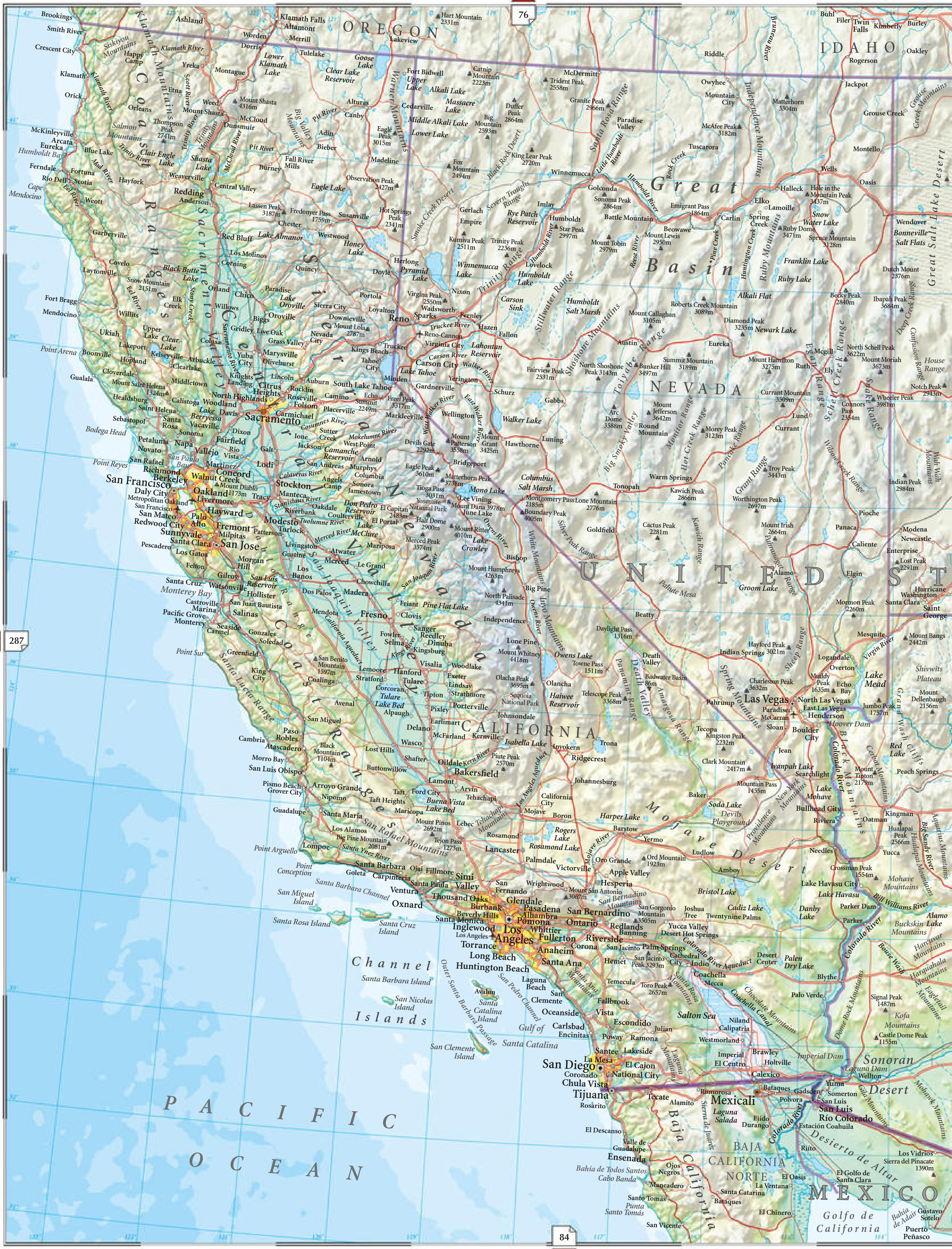
Population

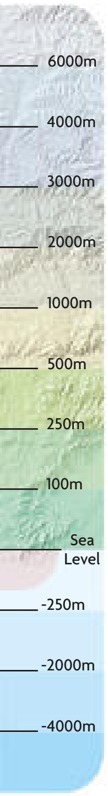
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft 13,124ft 9843ft 6562ft 3281ft 1640ft 820ft 328ft Sea Level -820ft -6562ft -13,124ft

USA – Southwest States





NORTH AMERICA

Scale 1:3,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

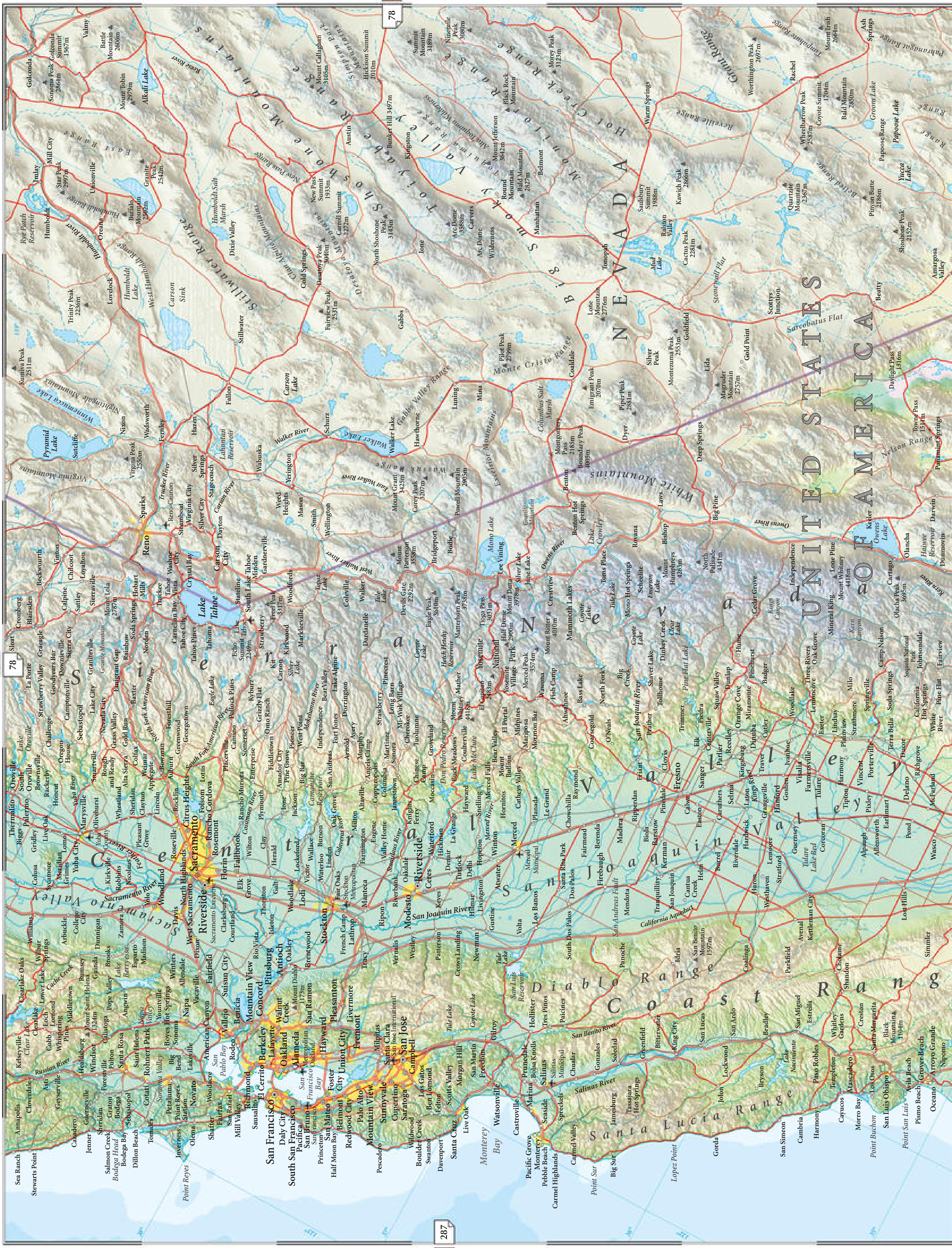
Population

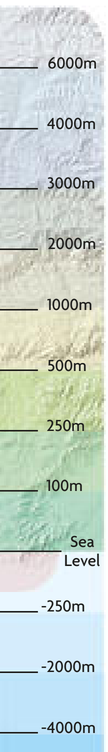
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

USA – California





Scale 1:1,875,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

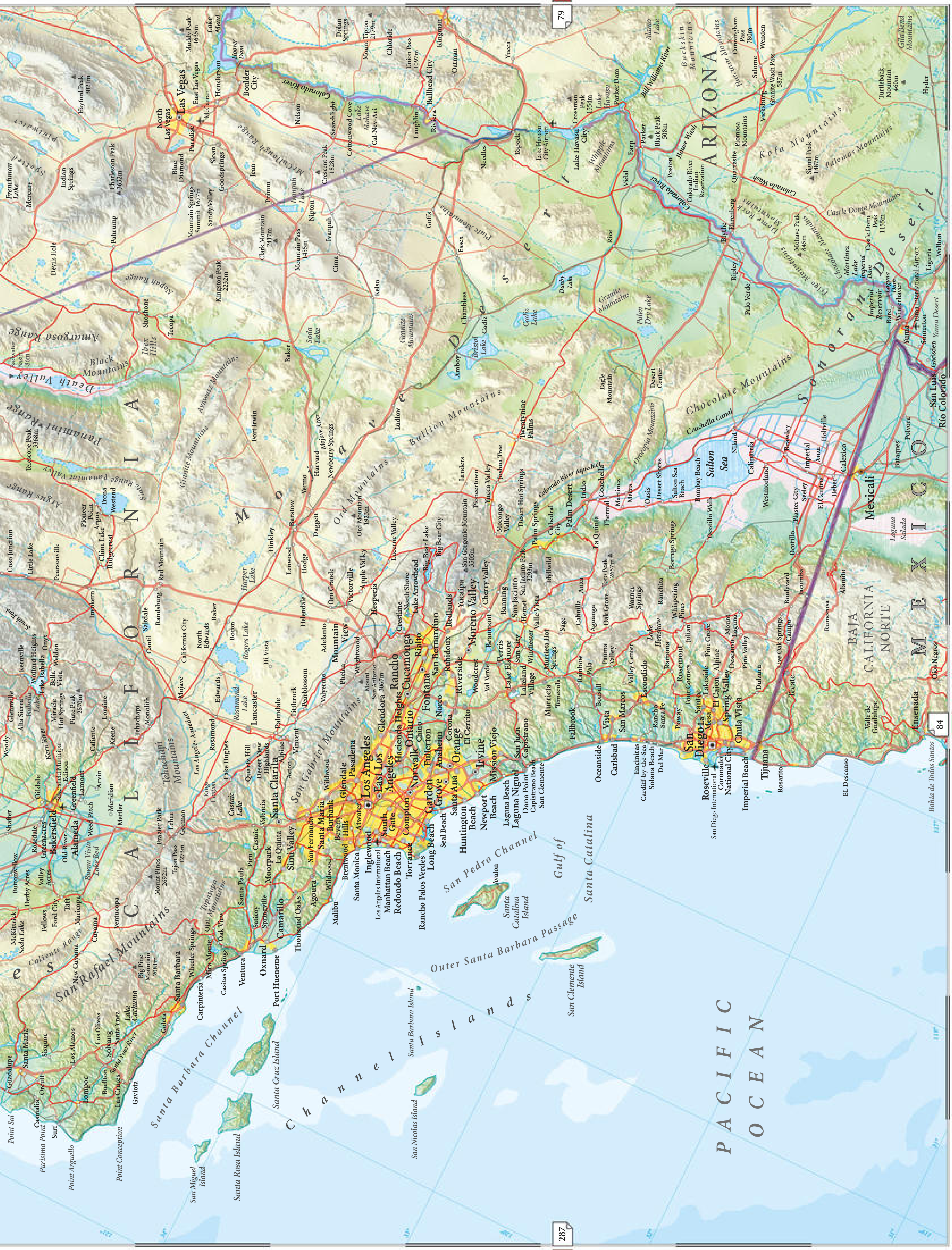
0 10 20 30 40 50 Km

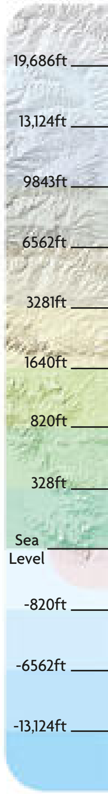
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000







USA – Alaska



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

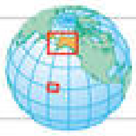
Scale 1:8,000,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- ▣ above 5 million
- ▣ 1 million to 5 million
- ◉ 500,000 to 1 million
- ◎ 100,000 to 500,000
- ⊕ 50,000 to 100,000
- ○ 10,000 to 50,000
- ○ below 10,000







Northern Mexico



Elevation key: 6000m, 4000m, 3000m, 2000m, 1000m, 500m, 250m, 100m, Sea Level, -250m, -2000m, -4000m

Scale 1:4,250,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

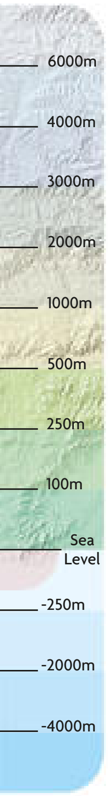


19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

NORTH AMERICA

Southern Mexico





NORTH AMERICA

Scale 1:4,250,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

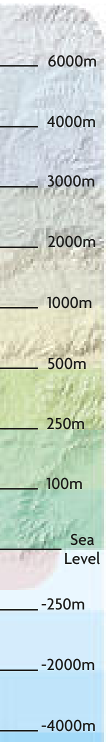
0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Central America





Scale 1:4,250,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

NORTH AMERICA

The Caribbean





Scale 1:6,250,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

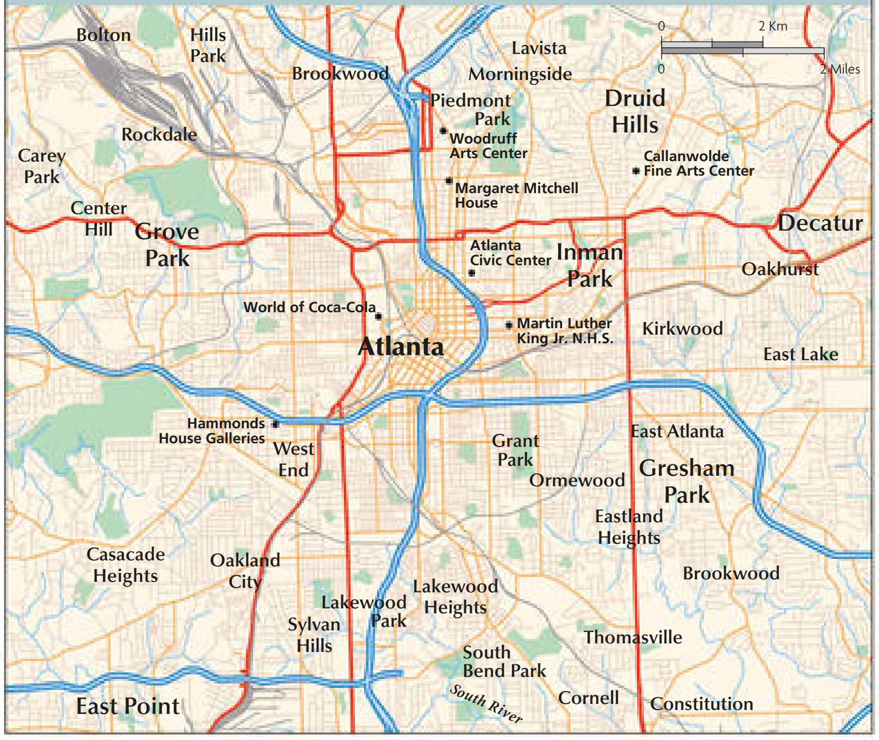
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



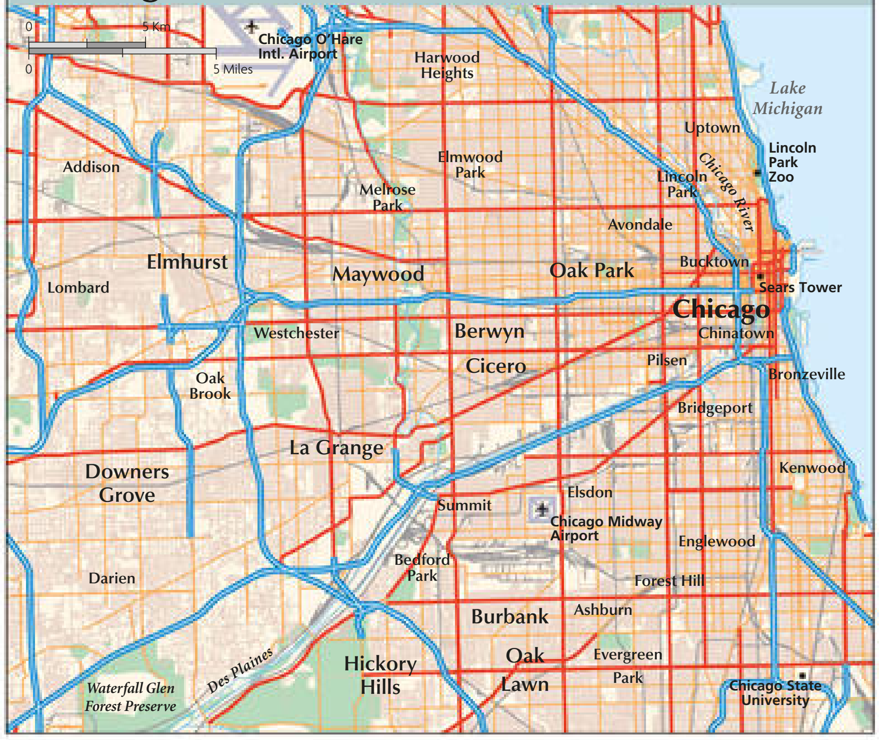
19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

NORTH AMERICA – Cities

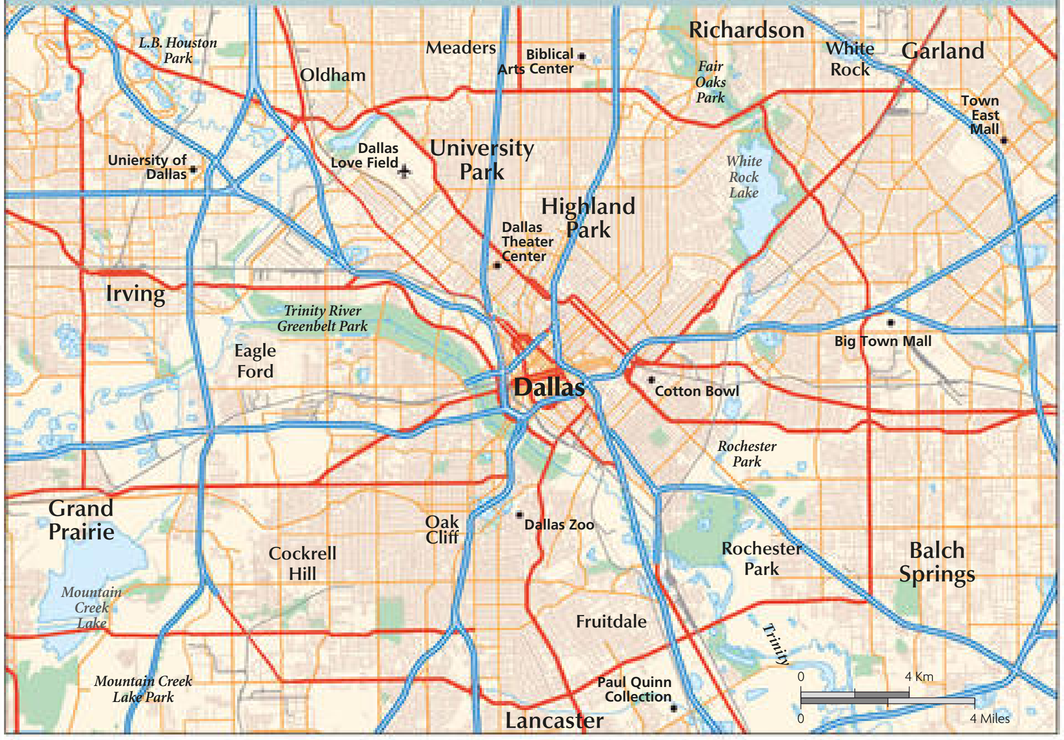
Atlanta



Chicago



Dallas



Denver



Detroit



Las Vegas

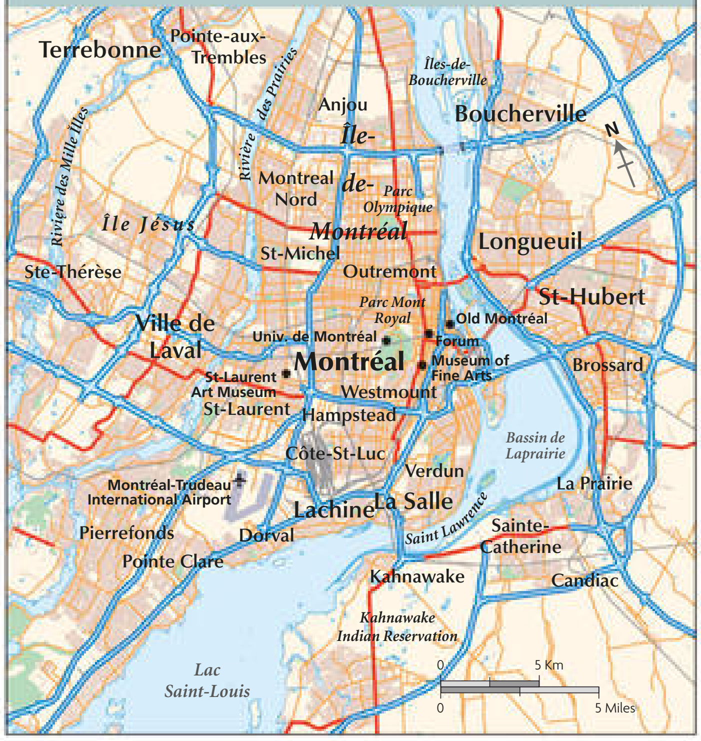


H I J K L M N

Los Angeles



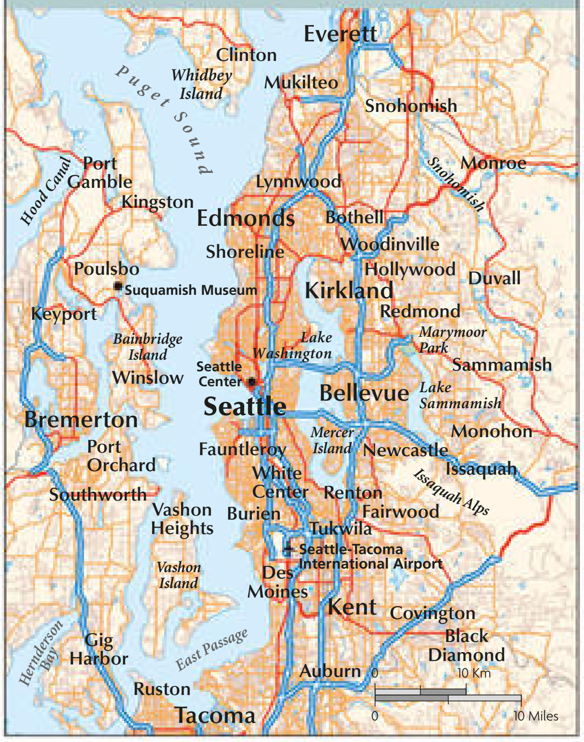
Montréal



Philadelphia



Seattle



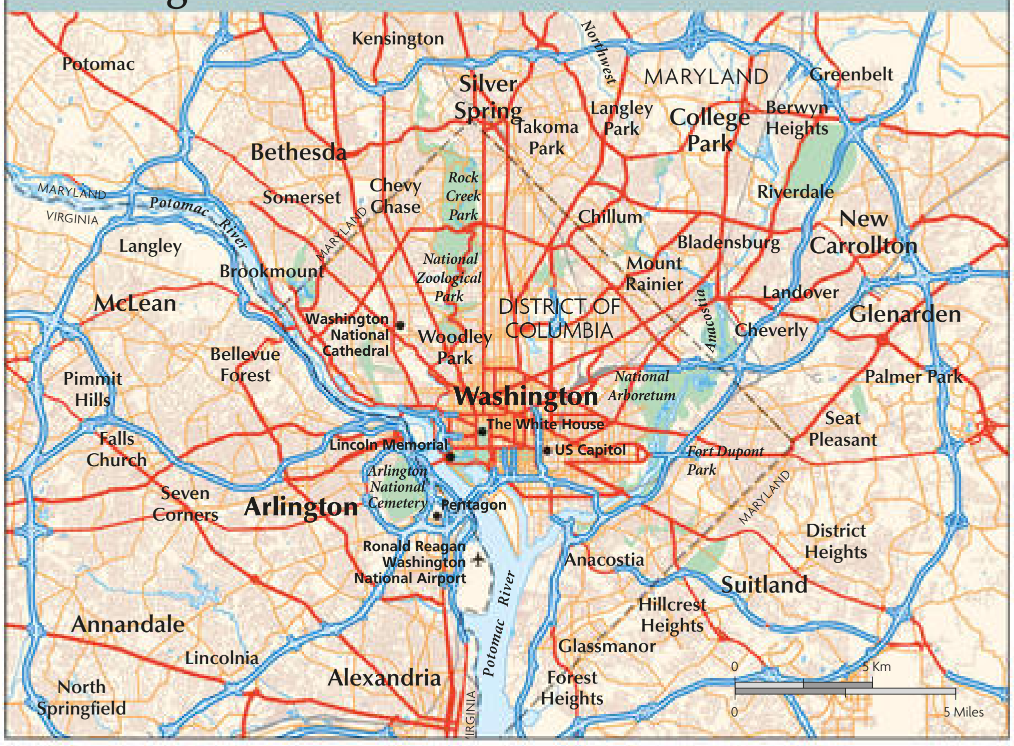
Toronto



San Francisco



Washington D.C.



H I J K L M N

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SOUTH AMERICA

South America reaches from the humid tropics down into the cold South Atlantic, with a total area of 6,886,000 sq miles (17,835,000 sq km). It comprises 12 separate countries, with the largest, Brazil, covering almost half the continent.

FACTFILE

N Most Northerly Point: Punta Gallinas, Colombia 12° 28′ N
S Most Southerly Point: Cape Horn, Chile 55° 59′ S
E Most Easterly Point: Ilhas Martin Vaz, Brazil 28° 51′ W
W Most Westerly Point: Galapagos Islands, Ecuador 92° 00′ W

Largest Lakes:
1. Lake Titicaca, Bolivia/Peru 3141 sq miles (8135 sq km)
2. Mirim Lagoon, Brazil/Uruguay 1158 sq miles (3000 sq km)
3. Lago Poopó, Bolivia 976 sq miles (2530 sq km)
4. Lago Buenos Aires, Argentina/Chile 864 sq miles (2240 sq km)
5. Laguna Mar Chiquita, Argentina 695 sq miles (1800 sq km)

Longest Rivers:
1. Amazon, Brazil/Colombia/Peru 4049 miles (6516 km)
2. Paraná, Argentina/Brazil/Paraguay 2920 miles (4700 km)
3. Madeira, Bolivia/Brazil 2100 miles (3379 km)
4. Purus, Brazil/Peru 2013 miles (3239 km)
5. São Francisco, Brazil 1802 miles (2900 km)

Largest Islands:
1. Tierra del Fuego, Argentina/Chile 18,302 sq miles (47,401 sq km)
2. Ilha de Marajo, Brazil 15,483 sq miles (40,100 sq km)
3. Isla de Chiloé, Chile 3241 sq miles (8394 sq km)
4. East Falkland, Falkland Islands 2550 sq miles (6605 sq km)
5. Isla Wellington, Chile 2145 sq miles (5556 sq km)

Highest Points:
1. Cerro Aconcagua, Argentina 22,831 ft (6959 m)
2. Cerro Ojos del Salado, Argentina/Chile 22,572 ft (6880 m)
3. Cerro Bonete, Argentina 22,546 ft (6872 m)
4. Monte Pissis, Argentina 22,224 ft (6774 m)
5. Cerro Mercedario, Argentina 22,211 ft (6768 m)

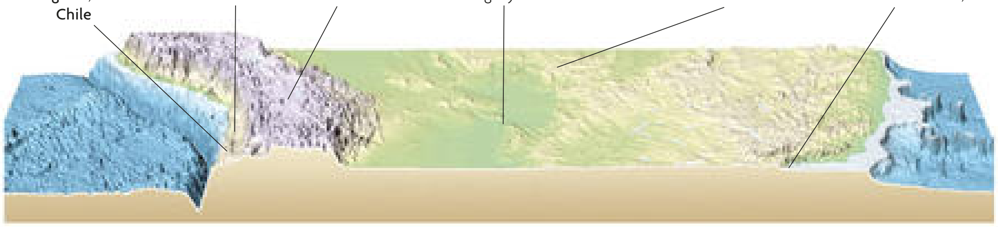
Lowest Point:
Laguna del Carbón, Argentina -344 ft (-105 m) below sea level

Highest recorded temperature:
Rivadavia, Argentina 120°F (49°C)

Lowest recorded temperature:
Sarmiento, Argentina -27°F (-33°C)

Wettest Place:
Quibdó, Colombia 354 in (8990 mm)

Driest Place:
Arica, Chile 0.03 in (0.8 mm)



Cross-section from Antofagasta, Chile to São Paulo, Brazil

line of cross-section

0 250 500 750 1000 Km
0 250 500 750 1000 Miles




Gulf of Mexico
Sigsbee Escarpment
Mississippi Fan
Apalachee Bay
Cape Canaveral
Lake Okeechobee
Straits of Florida
Bahamas
Hatteras Plain
Sargasso Sea
Nares Plain
Tropic of Cancer
Cape Verde Basin
Cape Verde Islands
Great Bahama Bank
Cuba
West Indies
Puerto Rico Trench
Leeward Islands
Hispaniola
Puerto Rico
Nevis
Barbuda
Antigua
Guadeloupe
Dominica
Martinique
Saint Lucia
Barbados
Grenada
Tobago
Trinidad
NORTH AMERICAN PLATE
SOUTH AMERICAN PLATE
MID-ATLANTIC RIDGE
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Gambia Plain
Yucatan Basin
Yucatan Peninsula
Cayman Trench
Cayman Trough
Windward Passage
Greater Antilles
Jamaica
Gulf of Honduras
Caribbean Sea
Lesser Antilles
Grenada Basin
Windward Islands
Isla de Margarita
Bonaire
Aruba
Curaçao
Punta Gallinas
Península de la Guajira
Gulf of Venezuela
Nicaraguan Rise
Mosquito Coast
CARIBBEAN PLATE
Sierra Madre del Sur
Gulf of Fonseca
Lake Nicaragua
Colombian Basin
Lake Maracaibo
Cordillera de la Costa
Orinoco
Caroní
Middle America Trench
Mosquito Gulf
Gulf of Darien
Isthmus of Panama
Gulf of Panama
Península de Azuero
Guatemala Basin
Colón Ridge
Panama Basin
Demerara Plain
AFRICAN PLATE
Doldrums Fracture Zone
Four North Fracture Zone
Saint Paul Fracture Zone
Equator
Guiana Basin
Llanos
Apure
Arauca
Meta
Guiana Highlands
Serra Parima
Uraricoera
Essequibo
Courantyne
Maroni
Oyapock
Tumuc-Humac Mountains
Araguari
Amazon Fan
Baía de Marajó
Ilha de Marajó
Ceará Plain
Baía de São Marcos
Atol das Rocas
Fernando de Noronha
Cabo de São Roque
Cabo Branco
Pernambuco Plain
Planalto da Borborema
Cordillera Occidental
Cordillera Central
Cordillera Oriental
Magdalena
Cauca
Vichada
Guaviare
Branco
Trombetas
Paru de Oeste
Pará
Jari
Xingu
Amazon
Represa Balbina
Rio Negro
Uaupés
Japurá
Caquetá
Putumayo
Napo
Amazon Basin
Represa de Tucuruí
Tocantins
Mearim
Itapicuru
Parnaíba
Serra Grande
Represa de Itaparica
Chimborazo 6310m
Galápagos Islands
Gulf of Guayaquil
Punta Pariñas
Cordillera Real
SOUTH AMERICA
Içá
Juruá
Jutaí
Madeira
Canumá
Tapajós
Teles Pires
Juruena
Aripuanã
Roosevelt
Serra do Cachimbo
Iriri
Curuá
São Manuel
Tapauá
Purus
Ituxi
Acre
Chapada dos Parecis
Chapada das Mangabeiras
Represa de Sobradinho
Serra Geral de Goiás
Chapada Diamantina
Paraguaçu
Baía de Todos os Santos
Brazil Basin
Marañón
Ucayali
ANDES
Urubamba
Madre de Dios
Beni
Mamoré
Guaporé
Planalto de Mato Grosso
Serra Formosa
Serra do Roncador
Manso
Araguaia
São Francisco
Brazilian Highlands
Serra do Espinhaço
Abrolhos Bank
Trindade Spur
Ilhas Martin Vaz
Doce
SOUTH AMERICAN PLATE
NAZCA PLATE
Cordillera Occidental
Cordillera Oriental
Apurímac
Lake Titicaca
Rapulo
Yungas
Río Grande
Pantanal
Taquari
Paraguay
Paranaíba
Aporé
Rio Grande
Serra da Mantiqueira
Tropic of Capricorn
Peru Basin
Mendaña Fracture Zone
Peru-Chile Trench
Altiplano
Lago Poopó
Atacama Desert
Pilcomayo
Gran Chaco
Serra do Paranapiacaba
Ilha de São Sebastião
Santos Plateau
Serra do Mar
Represa de Itaipú
Iguaçu
Serra Geral
Ilha de São Francisco
Rio Grande Rise
PACIFIC OCEAN
Nazca Ridge
Chile Basin
Cerro Ojos del Salado 6893m
Salinas Grandes
Dulce
Salado
Paraná
Uruguay
Mesopotamia
Lagoa dos Patos
Islas de los Desventurados
Sala y Gomez Fracture Zone
Easter Island
Sierras de Córdoba
Laguna Mar Chiquita
Pampas
Embalse del Río Negro
Río Negro
Cuchilla Grande
Mirim Lagoon
Cerro Aconcagua 6959m
Río de la Plata
East Pacific Rise
Roggeveen Basin
Juan Fernandez Islands
Argentine Basin
Neuquén
Limay
Colorado
Río Negro
Bahía Blanca
Golfo San Matías
Península Valdés
Argentine Plain
Chubut
Patagonia
Isla de Chiloé
Chico
Gulf of San Jorge
Lago Buenos Aires
Deseado
Falkland Escarpment
Maurice Ewing Bank
South Sandwich
Falkland Plateau
South Georgia
South Georgia Ridge
NAZCA PLATE
ANTARCTIC PLATE
Golfo Corcovado
Isla Wellington
Bahía Grande
Falkland Islands
Lagun del Carbón
Strait of Magellan
Tierra del Fuego
Scotia Ridge
SCOTIA PLATE
Scotia Sea
ANTARCTIC PLATE
PACIFIC PLATE
Cape Horn
South Shetland Islands
South Orkney Islands
South Shetland Trough
Weddell Sea
Antarctic Circle
ANTARCTICA

SOUTH AMERICA – Political



Political

Modern South America's political boundaries have their origins in the territorial endeavors of explorers during the 16th century, who claimed almost the entire continent for Portugal and Spain. The Portuguese land in the east later evolved into the federal states of Brazil, while the Spanish vice-royalties eventually emerged as separate independent nation-states in the early 19th century. South America's growing population has become increasingly urbanized, with the expansion of coastal cities into large conurbations like Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. In Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay, a succession of military dictatorships has given way to fragile, but strengthening, democracies.

Languages

Prior to European exploration in the 16th century, a diverse range of indigenous languages were spoken across the continent. With the arrival of Iberian settlers, Spanish became the dominant language, with Portuguese spoken in Brazil, and Native American languages, such as Quechua and Guaraní, becoming concentrated in the continental interior. Today this pattern persists, although successive European colonization has led to Dutch being spoken in Suriname, English in Guyana, and French in French Guiana, while in large urban areas, Japanese and Chinese are increasingly common.



Standard of living

Wealth disparities throughout the continent create a wide gulf between affluent landowners and those afflicted by chronic poverty in inner-city slums. The illicit production of cocaine, and the hugely influential drug barons who control its distribution, contribute to the violent disorder and corruption which affect northwestern South America, destabilizing local governments and economies.



Population

Almost half of South America's population lives in Brazil but, due to the large uninhabited expanses of the Amazon Basin, its overall population density is much lower than in other countries. During the 20th century the most important population trend was the movement from rural to urban areas, giving rise to great population concentrations in cities like São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Caracas, Lima, Bogotá, and Buenos Aires.





Transportation

Most major road and rail routes are confined to the coastal regions by the forbidding natural barriers of the Andes mountains and the Amazon Basin. Few major cross-continental routes exist, although Buenos Aires serves as a transport center for the main rail links to La Paz and Valparaíso, while the construction of the Trans-Amazon and Pan-American Highways have made direct road travel possible from Recife to Lima and from Puerto Montt up the coast into central America. A new waterway project is proposed to transform the Paraguay river into a major shipping route, although it involves considerable wetland destruction.

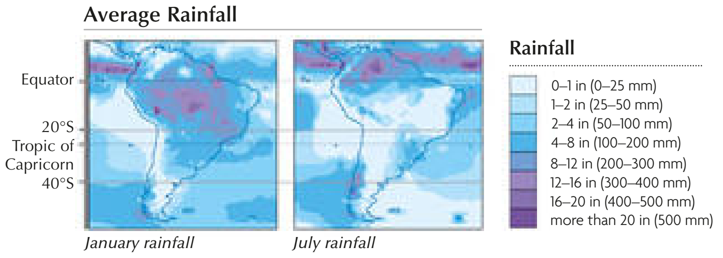
SOUTH AMERICA – Physical

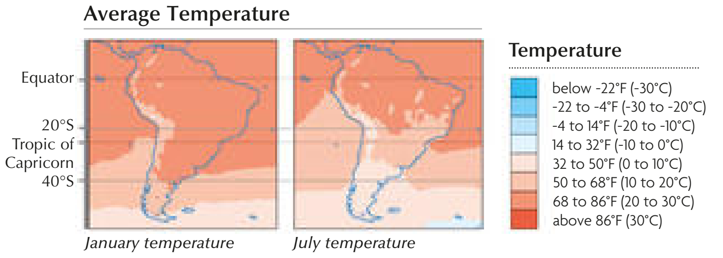


Climate

The climate of South America is influenced by three principal factors: the seasonal shift of high pressure air masses over the tropics, cold ocean currents along the western coast, affecting temperature and precipitation, and the mountain barrier produced by by the Andes, which creates a rain shadow over much of the south.

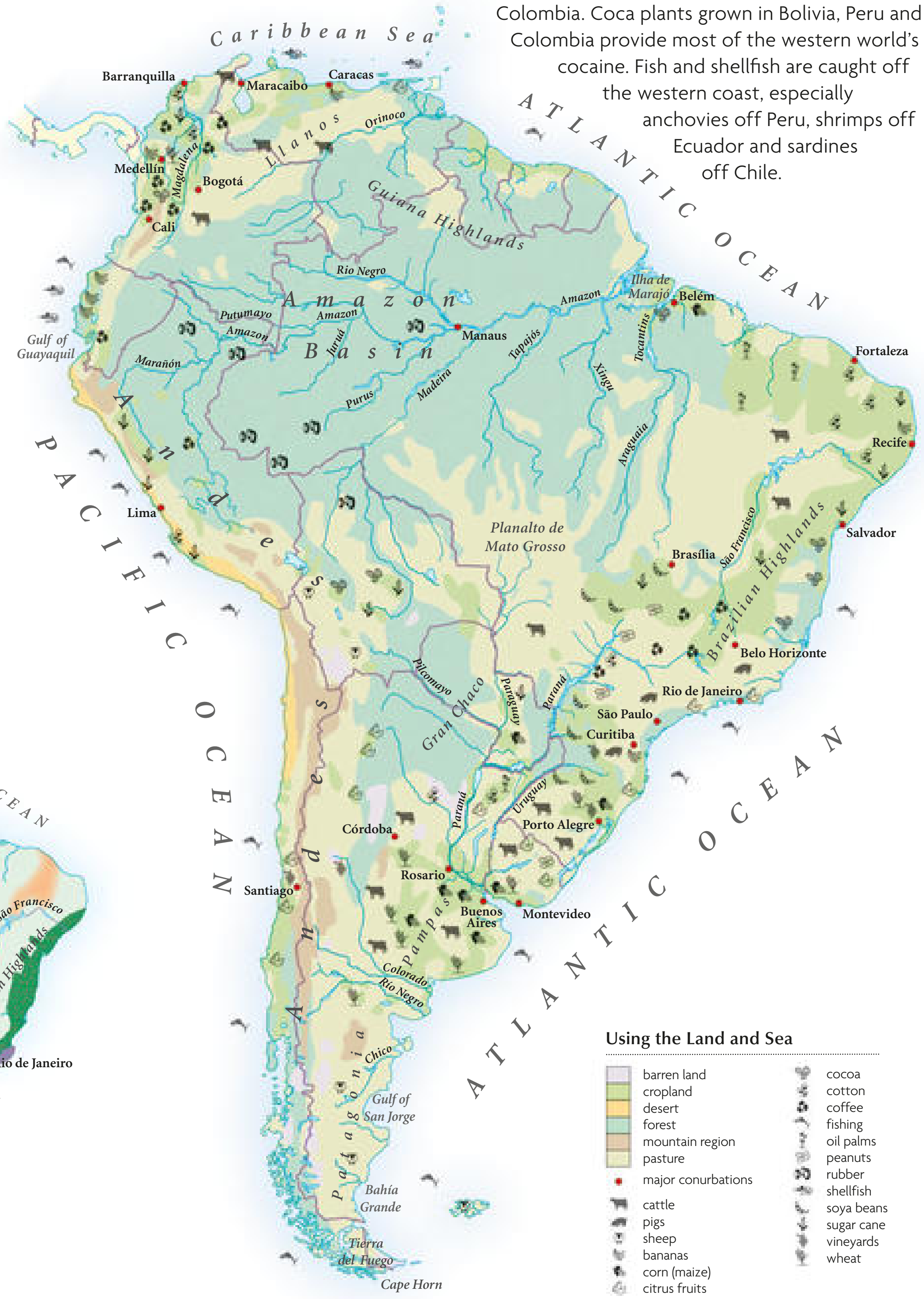






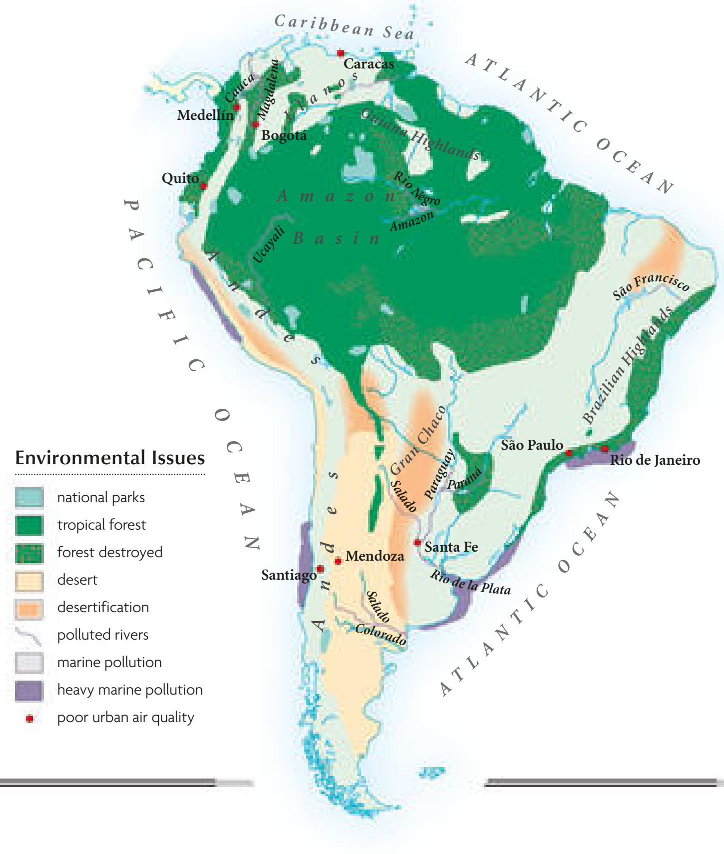
Land use

Many foods now common worldwide originated in South America. These include the potato, tomato, squash, and cassava. Today, large herds of beef cattle roam the temperate grasslands of the Pampas, supporting an extensive meat-packing trade in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. Corn (maize) is grown as a staple crop across the continent and coffee is grown as a cash crop in Brazil and Colombia. Coca plants grown in Bolivia, Peru and Colombia provide most of the western world's cocaine. Fish and shellfish are caught off the western coast, especially anchovies off Peru, shrimps off Ecuador and sardines off Chile.

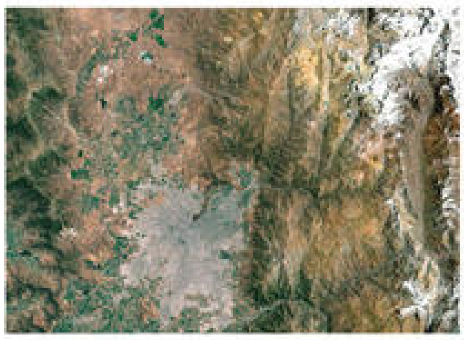


Environmental Issues

The Amazon Basin is one of the last great wilderness areas left on Earth. The tropical rainforests which grow there are a valuable genetic resource, containing innumerable unique plants and animals. The forests are increasingly under threat from new and expanding settlements and "slash and burn" farming techniques, which clear land for the raising of beef cattle, causing land degradation and soil erosion.



SOUTH AMERICA



1 SANTIAGO, CHILE
Chile's capital city was founded in 1541 by Pedro de Valdivia who chose the location because it had a Mediterranean climate and was easy to defend.



2 GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, ECUADOR
These islands are a collection of volcanoes rising from the ocean floor 621 miles (1000 km) west of the South American mainland.



3 SALAR DE UYUNI, BOLIVIA
Occupying a depression high up on the Altiplano between the volcanoes of the western Andes and the fold belts of the eastern Andes, this is the world's largest salt flat.



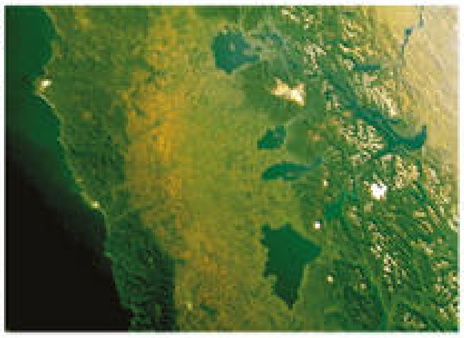
4 MACHU PICCHU, PERU
Perched precariously above the Urubamba valley, the lost Inca retreat was rediscovered in 1911 by Hiram Bingham, an American archaeologist.



9 LAGO VIEDMA, ARGENTINA
Lago Viedma enjoys a milky-blue appearance due to the glacial sediment suspended in its waters.



10 LOS LAGOS, CHILE
A region of many lakes at the foothills of the Andes in south-central Chile, this area is an attraction for many tourists.



11 ROSARIO, ARGENTINA
Located on the west bank of the Paraná river, Rosario lies at that heart of Argentina's industrial corridor, centered on the river.



12 RIVER PLATE, ARGENTINA/URUGUAY
Fed by the Paraná and Uruguay rivers, this Atlantic Ocean inlet separates Argentina and Uruguay.











RONDÔNIA, BRAZIL 5
Pale strips of forest clearance can be seen along perpendicular tracks in this region of the Amazon Basin.

MARACAIBO, VENEZUELA 6
Maracaibo is the center of Venezuela's oil industry and its second largest city with a population of 1.6 million.

AMAZON RIVER/RIO NEGRO, BRAZIL 7
The dark, plant debris-stained waters of the Rio Negro join the beige Amazon near the city of Manaus.

EMBALSE DE GURI, VENEZUELA 8
This enormous reservoir, on the Caroni river, was completed in 1986 and its hydroelectric plant was the first to produce more than 10 gigawatts of electricity.

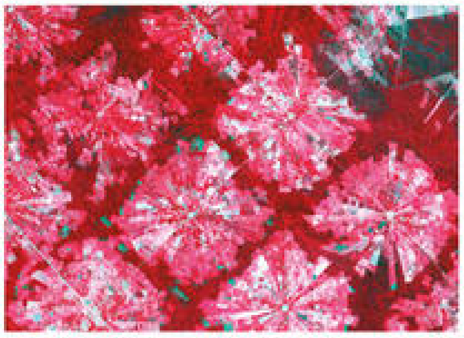


FOREST CLEARANCE IN SANTA CRUZ STATE, BOLIVIA 13
This infrared image shows the distinctive radial clearance patterns of original tropical dry forest with a small settlement at each center.

LAGOA DOS PATOS AND MIRIM LAGOON, BRAZIL/URUGUAY 14
These two lagoons are separated from the Atlantic Ocean by 248 miles (400 km) of sandbar.

ITAIPU DAM, BRAZIL/PARAGUAY 15
With an installed capacity of 14 gigawatts this is the world's largest hydroelectric power scheme, delivering 95% of Paraguay's energy needs and 24% of Brazil's.

POINT BALEIA, BRAZIL 16
This headland has built up through steady accumulation of silt and sediment, shaped by tides and ocean currents.

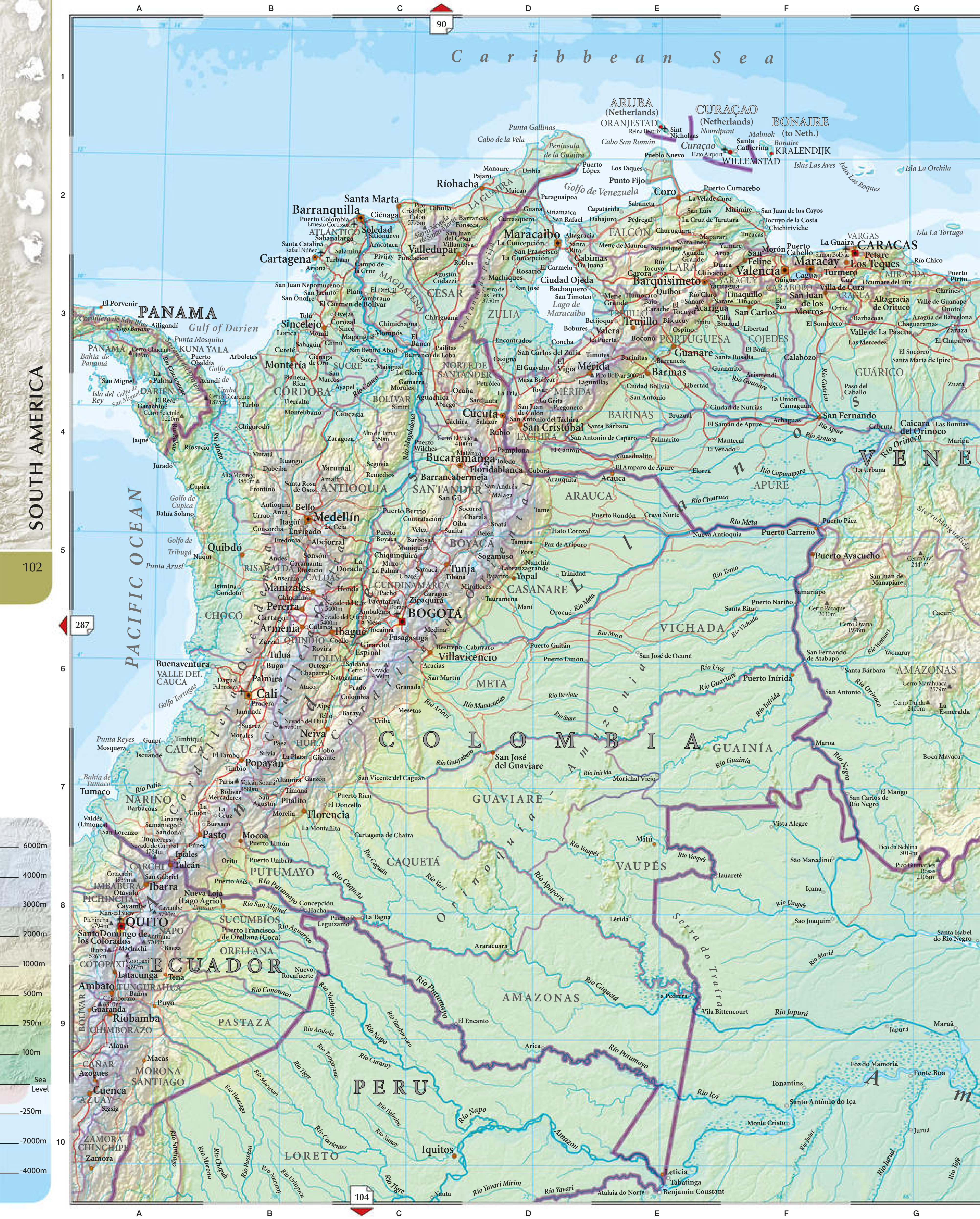








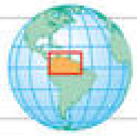
Northern South America



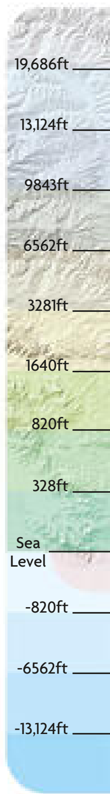
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(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

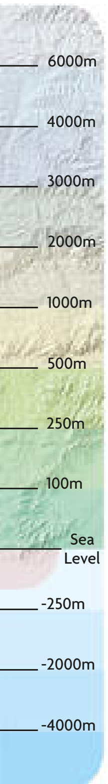
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000







Western South America





106
102
287

Scale 1:6,500,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Amazon Basin



Scale 1:6,500,000

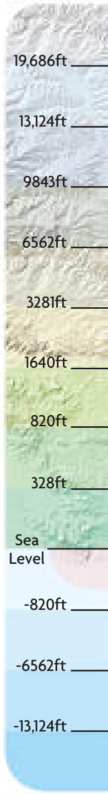
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0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

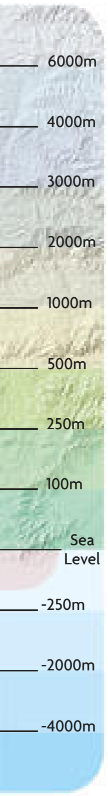
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Eastern Brazil





Scale 1:6,500,000

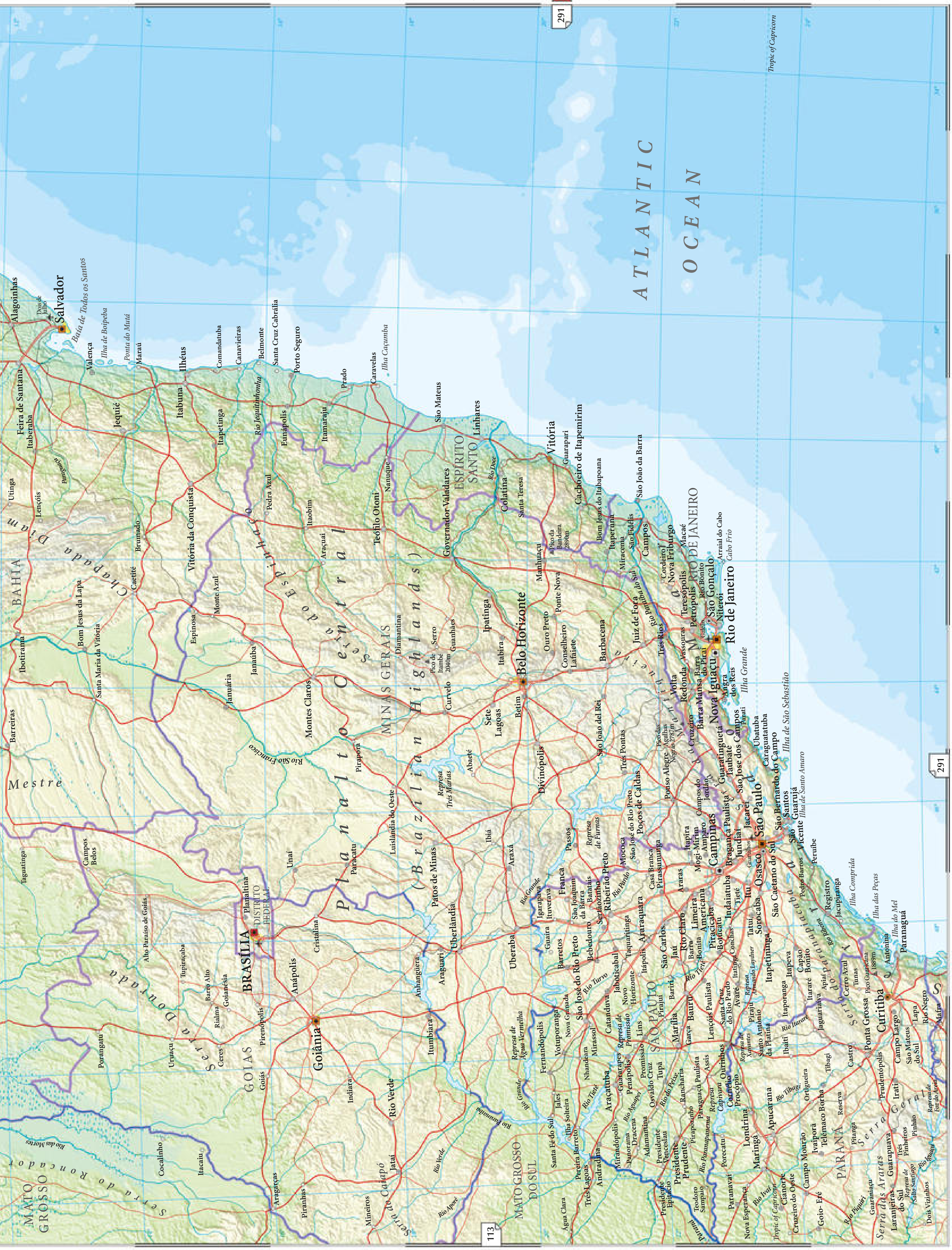
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0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

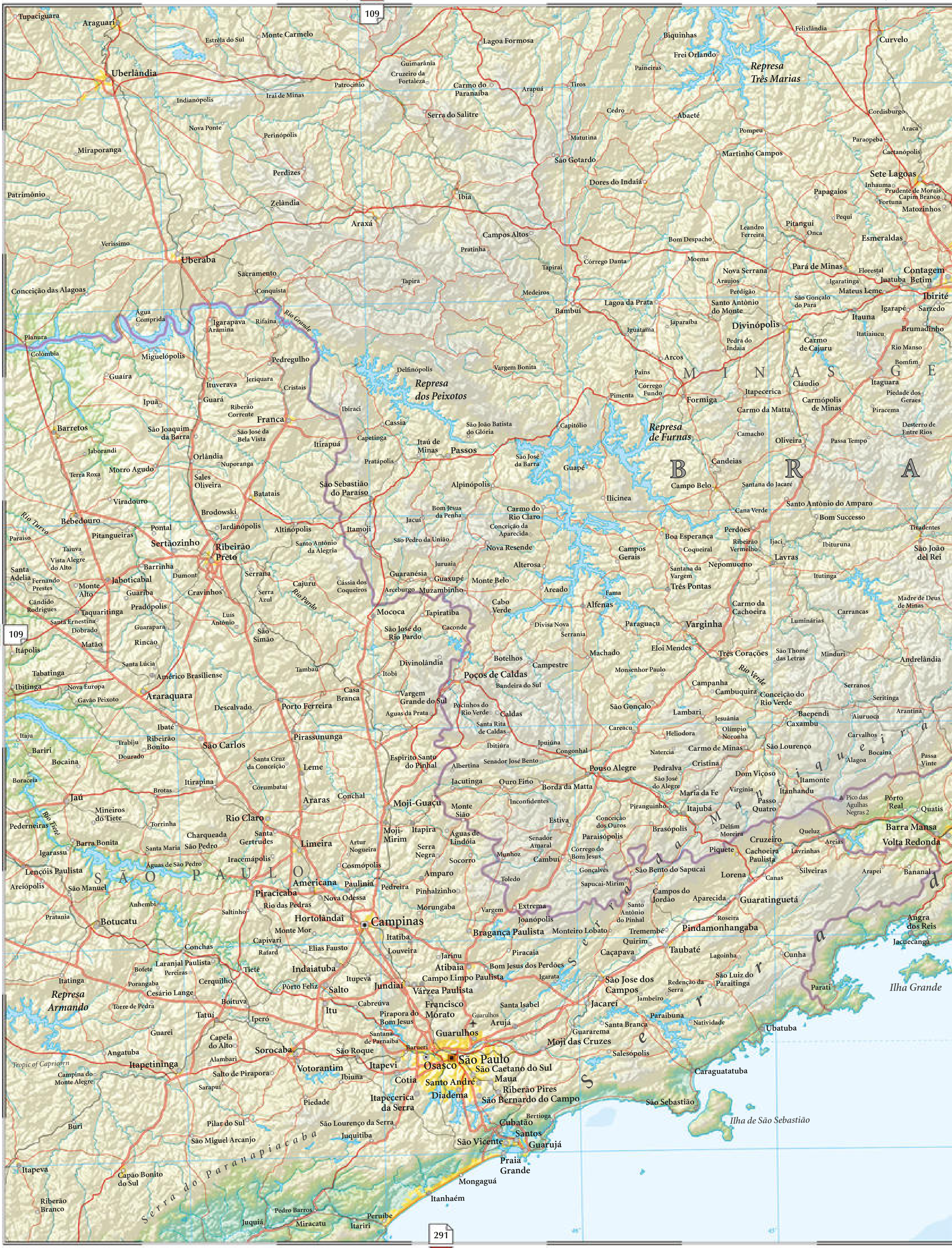
Population

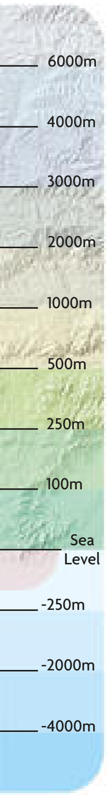
above 5 million	1 million to 5 million	500,000 to 1 million	
100,000 to 500,000	50,000 to 100,000	10,000 to 50,000	below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southeast Brazil



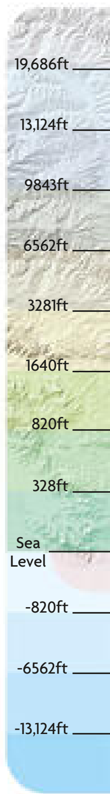


Scale 1:2,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

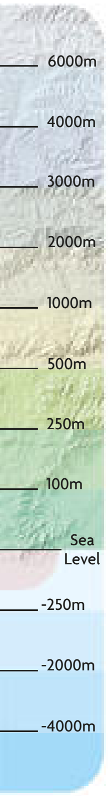
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Central South America





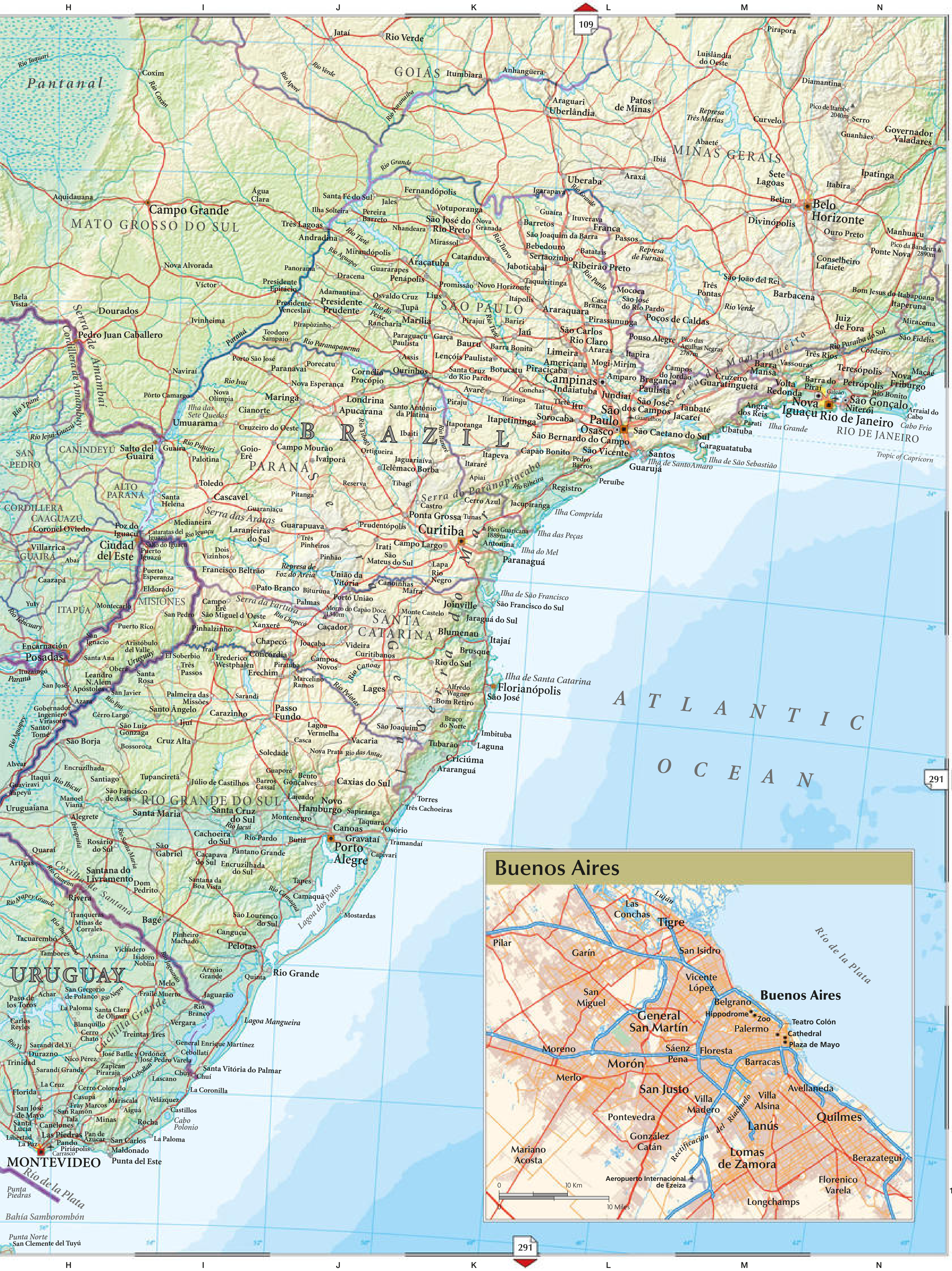
Scale 1:6,500,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

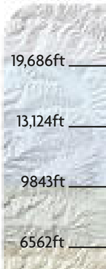
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



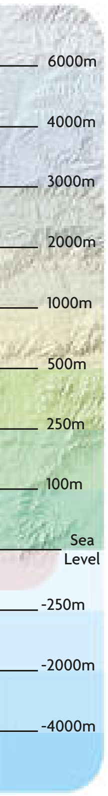




River Plate



A
B
C
D
E
F
G
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
112
116
ARGENTINA
CORRIENTES
ENTRE RÍOS
SANTA FE
BUENOS AIRES
Mesopotamia
Pampa Húmeda
ARTIGAS
SALTO
PAYSANDÚ
RÍO NEGRO
SORIANO
FLORES
COLONIA
SAN JOSÉ
U R
Río de la Plata
Paraná
Uruguay
Río San Javier
Río Corrientes
Río Gualeguay
Río Paraná Ibicuy
Río Salado
Río Saladillo
Río Quaraí
Río Dayman
Río Queguay Grande
Río Negro
Río Yí
Embalse de Salto Grande
BUENOS AIRES
Rosario
Santa Fe
Paraná
Concordia
Salto
Paysandú
Uruguaiana
Paso de los Libres
Gualeguaychú
Fray Bentos
Mercedes
Colonia del Sacramento
La Plata
Zárate
Campana
Tigre
San Isidro
San Fernando
Vicente Lopez
Avellaneda
Quilmes
Lanus
Lomas de Zamora
Florencio Varela
San Justo
Moreno
Merlo
General Rodriguez
Luján
Pilar
Belén de Escobar
Berisso
Ensenada
Pergamino
San Nicolás de los Arroyos
Villa Constitucion
Villa Gobernador Galvez
San Lorenzo
Rafaela
Esquina
Goya
La Paz
Federal
Villaguay
Concepción del Uruguay
Gualeguay
Victoria
Nogoyá
Diamante
Crespo
Junín
Chivilcoy
Mercedes
San Pedro
Baradero
Arrecifes
Salto
Colón
Chacabuco
Bragado
Dolores
Carmelo
Rosario
Nueva Helvecia
Trinidad
Young
Guichón
Bella Unión
Monte Caseros
Federación
Chajarí
Curuzú Cuatiá



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:2,000,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

Population

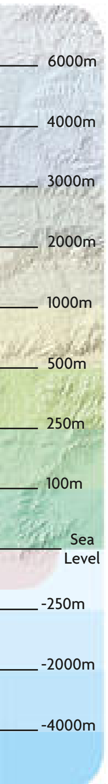
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Southern South America

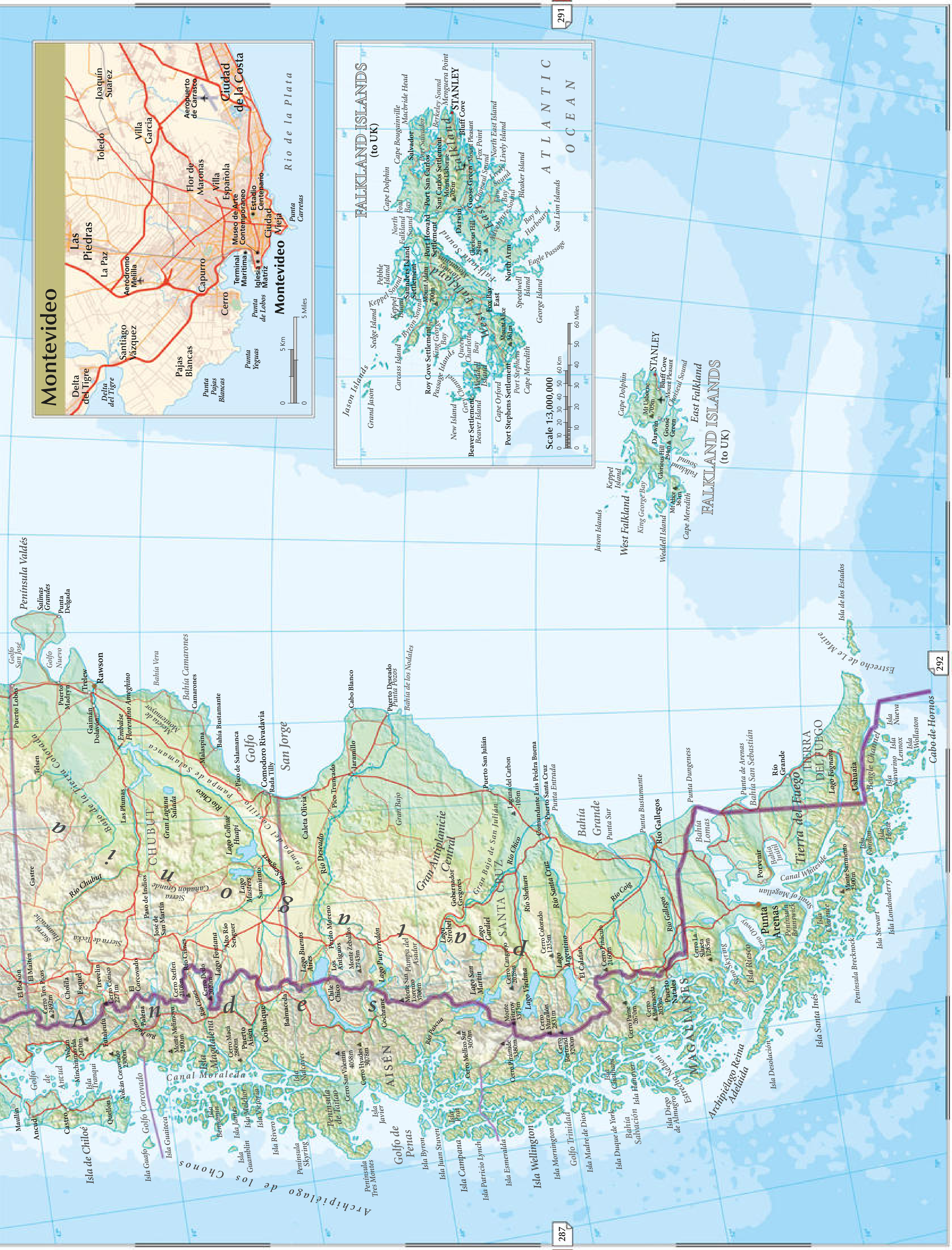




Scale 1:6,500,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



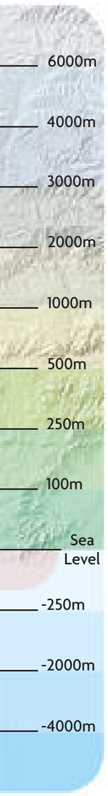
291
292
287

Central Chile & Argentina

Scale 1:2,600,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)







112
116
287

Brasília



Caracas



Havana



Quito

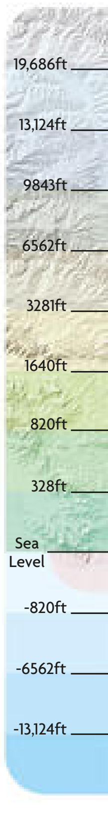


Santiago



São Paulo





AFRICA

Africa is the world's second largest continent with a total area of 11,712,434 sq miles (30,335,000 sq km). It has 54 separate countries, including Madagascar in the Indian Ocean. It straddles the equator and is the only continent to stretch from the northern to southern temperate zones.

FACTFILE

- **N** **Most Northerly Point:** Jalta, Tunisia 37° 31' N
- **S** **Most Southerly Point:** Cape Agulhas, South Africa 34° 52' S
- **E** **Most Easterly Point:** Raas Xaafuun, Somalia 51° 24' E
- **W** **Most Westerly Point:** Santo Antão, Cape Verde, 25° 11' W

Largest Lakes:
1. Lake Victoria, Kenya/Tanzania/Uganda 26,828 sq miles (69,484 sq km)
2. Lake Tanganyika, Dem. Rep. Congo/Tanzania 12,703 sq miles (32,900 sq km)
3. Lake Nyasa, Malawi/Mozambique/Tanzania 11,600 sq miles (30,044 sq km)
4. Lake Turkana, Ethiopia/Kenya 2473 sq miles (6405 sq km)
5. Lake Albert, Dem. Rep. Congo/Uganda 2046 sq miles (5299 sq km)

Longest Rivers:
1. Nile, NE Africa 4160 miles (6695 km)
2. Congo, Angola/Congo/Dem. Rep. Congo 2900 miles (4667 km)
3. Niger, W Africa 2589 miles (4167 km)
4. Zambezi, Southern Africa 1673 miles (2693 km)
5. Ubangi-Uele, C Africa 1429 miles (2300 km)

Largest Islands:
1. Madagascar, 229,300 sq miles (594,000 sq km)
2. Réunion, 970 sq miles (2535 sq km)
3. Tenerife, Canary Islands 785 sq miles (2034 sq km)
4. Isla de Bioco, Equatorial Guinea 779 sq miles (2017 sq km)
5. Mauritius, 709 sq miles (1836 sq km)

Highest Points:
1. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania 19,340 ft (5895 m)
2. Kirinyaga, Kenya 17,058 ft (5199 m)
3. Mount Stanley, Dem. Rep. Congo/Uganda 16,762 ft (5109 m)
4. Mount Speke, Uganda 16,043 ft (4890 m)
5. Mount Baker, Uganda 15,892 ft (4844 m)

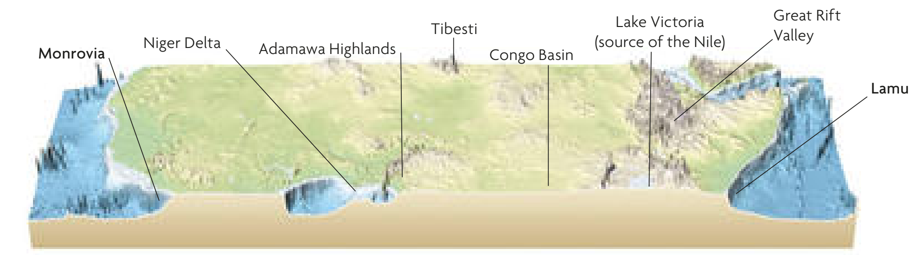
Lowest Point:
Lac 'Assal, Djibouti -512 ft (-156 m) below sea level

Highest recorded temperature:
Al'Aziziyah, Libya 136°F (58°C)

Lowest recorded temperature:
Ifrane, Morocco -11°F (-24°C)

Wettest Place:
Cape Debundsha, Cameroon 405 in (10,290 mm)

Driest Place:
Wadi Halfa, Sudan <0.1 in (<2.5 mm)



Cross-section from Monrovia, Liberia to Lamu, Kenya

line of cross-section





H
I
J
K
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N
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
Iberian Peninsula
Sardinia
Balearic Islands
Tyrrhenian Sea
Gulf of Taranto
Aegean Sea
Lake Tuz
Anatolia
Taurus Mountains
Iranian Plateau
ASIA
Strait of Gibraltar
Sierra Nevada
Mediterranean Sea
Sicily
Mount Etna 3340m
Jalta
Cap Blanc
Ionian Sea
Ionian Basin
Peloponnese
Sea of Crete
Crete
Gulf of Antalya
Cyprus
Nahr al Khabur
Tigris
Zagros Mountains
Kārūn
EURASIAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
ANATOLIAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
Hellenic Trough
Malta
Mejerda
High Atlas
Atlas Mountains
Saharan Atlas
Grand Erg Occidental
Chott el Jerid
Syrian Desert
Wadi al Ubayyid
Wadi al Khirr
Euphrates
IRANIAN PLATE
ARABIAN PLATE
Mand
Jordan
Dead Sea
Nile Fan
Suez Canal
Gulf of Sirte
Al Jabal al Akhdar
Grand Erg Oriental
An Nafūd
Persian Gulf
Gulf of Oman
Sinai
Qattara Depression
Plateau du Tademaït
Oued Saoura
Great Sand Sea
Nile
Eastern Desert
Wadi al Jarir
Arabian Peninsula
Tropic of Cancer
Az Zāhirah
Wahibah Sands
Western Desert
SAHARA
Erg Chech
Tassili-n-Ajjer
Idhān Murzūq
Libyan Desert
Ahaggar
Oued Tafassasset
Lake Nasser
Nubian Desert
Red Sea
Wadi Bishah
Wadi Tathlith
Asir
Ar Rub' al Khālī
Tanezrouft
Ténéré du Tafassâsset
Adrar des Ifôghas
Tibesti
East Sheba Ridge
Azaouâd
Massif de l'Aïr
Grand Erg de Bilma
Barka
Tihamah
ARABIAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
Alula-Fartak Trench
Socotra
Wadi Muqaddam
Wadi el Milk
Ouadi Howa
Ouadi Haouach
Atbara
Gash
Tekezē
Gulf of Aden
Ténéré
Sahel
Vallée de l'Azaouagh
Niger
Lake Chad
Rahad
Blue Nile
White Nile
Lac 'Assal
Lake Tana
Ras Dashen
Horn of Africa
Ras Binnah
Abuye Meda 4000m
Chari
Komadugu Gana
Hadejia
Black Volta
Jos Plateau
Logone
Bahr Kameur
Massif des Bongo
Sudd
Baro
Ethiopian Highlands
Gilo
Mendebo
Fafen Shet'
Wabē Gestro
Ogaden
Chain Ridge
Lac de Kossou
Lake Volta
Oueme
Gongola
Shebshi Mountains
Donga
Katsina Ala
Niger
Bangoran
Yei
White Nile
Kangen
Genale
Dawa
Somali Basin
AFRICA
Adamawa Highlands
Lotagipi Swamp
Lake Turkana (Lake Rudolf)
Huri Hills
Didinga Hills
Juba
Shebeli
Somali Plain
Equator
Niger Delta
Niger Fan
Isla de Bioco
Cameroon Mountain 4070m
Gulf of Guinea
Guinea Basin
Príncipe
São Tomé
Lobaye
Kotto
Uele
Itimbiri
Aruwimi
Kibali
Lake Albert
Cherangany Hills
Great Rift Valley
Kirinyaga 5200m
INDIAN OCEAN
Ogooue
Zadie
Ubangi
Congo
Congo Basin
Nepoko
Lake Edward
Lake Victoria
Kagera
Grumeti
Kilimanjaro 5895m
Pemba Channel
Pemba
Zanzibar
Zanzibar Channel
Providence Atoll
Amirante Trench
Maiko
Ulindi
Lomami
Lake Kivu
Busira
Gombe
Fracture Zone
Congo
Congo Fan
Congo Canyon
Chain Fracture Zone
Loge
Cuango
Kwilu
Lulua
Kasai
Lukuga
Lake Tanganyika
Lake Rukwa
Kilombero
Mbarangandu
Rovuma
Lubilandji
Mitumba Range
Lake Mweru
Luapula
Muchinga Escarpment
Comoro Islands
Comoro Basin
Tanjona Bobaomby
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Lucala
Angola Basin
Cuanza
Lake Nyasa
Lugenda
Lúrio
Ligonha
Catumbela
Bié Plateau
Kabompo
Lake Cabora Bassa
Zambezi
Luenha
Mozambique Channel
Samhao
Madagascar
Mascarene Plain
Saint Helena
Cunene
Cubango
Cuando
Zambezi
Lake Kariba
Sabi
Tsiribihina
Mid-Atlantic Ridge
SOUTH AMERICAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
Chobe
Kafue Flats
Okavango Delta
Nxai Pan
Ntwetwe Pan
Lundi
Mananara
Tropic of Capricorn
Madagascar Basin
Omatako
Eiseb
Limpopo
Ghanzi
Khomas Hochland
Kalahari Desert
Nossob
Auob
Molopo
Olifants
Crocodile
Tanjona Vohimena
Madagascar Plateau
Walvis Ridge
Namib Desert
Groot Karasberge
Kuruman
Harts
Vaal
Maputo
Tugela
Natal Basin
Orange River
Orange Fan
Orange River
Doring
Drakensberg
Natal Valley
Mozambique Plateau
Southwest Indian Ridge
Breede
Great Karoo
Cape of Good Hope
Cape Agulhas
Discovery II Fracture Zone
Tristan da Cunha
Gough Island
Cape Basin
Crozet Islands
Agulhas Plateau
Cape Rise
Agulhas Basin
Prince Edward Fracture Zone
Du Toit Fracture Zone
Prince Edward Islands
AFRICAN PLATE
ANTARCTICA PLATE
Atlantic-Indian Ridge
Crozet Plateau

AFRICA – Political

Political

The political map of modern Africa only emerged following the end of World War II. Over the next half-century, all of the countries formerly controlled by European powers gained independence from their colonial rulers—only Liberia and Ethiopia were never colonized. The post-colonial era has not been an easy period for many countries, but there have been moves toward multi-party democracy across much of the continent. In South Africa, democratic elections replaced the internationally-condemned apartheid system only in 1994. Other countries have still to find political stability; corruption in government and ethnic tensions are serious problems. National infrastructures, based on the colonial transportation systems built to exploit Africa's resources, are often inappropriate for independent economic development.

Scale 1:30,500,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

Km 0 200 400 600 800 1000
Miles 0 200 400 600 800 1000



Standard of living

Since the 1960s most countries in Africa have seen significant improvements in life expectancy, healthcare, and education. However, 28 of the 30 most deprived countries in the world are African, and the continent as a whole lies well behind the rest of the world in terms of meeting many basic human needs.

AFRICA

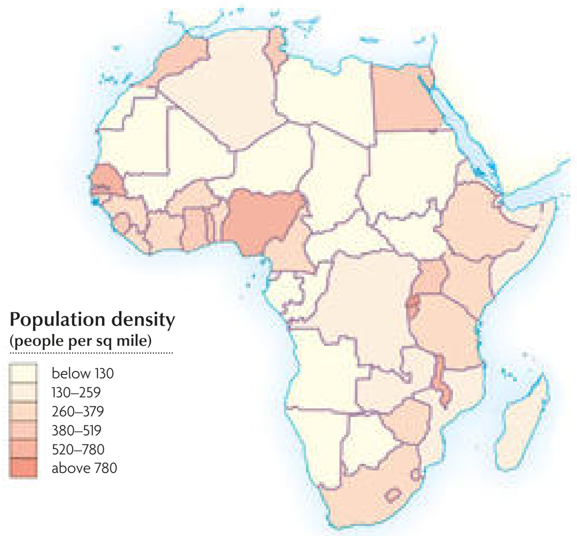
Transportation

African railroads were built to aid the exploitation of natural resources, and most offer passage only from the interior to the coastal cities, leaving large parts of the continent untouched—five land-locked countries have no railroads at all. The Congo, Nile, and Niger river networks offer limited access to land within the continental interior, but have a number of waterfalls and cataracts which prevent navigation from the sea. Many roads were developed in the 1960s and 1970s, but economic difficulties are making the maintenance and expansion of the networks difficult.

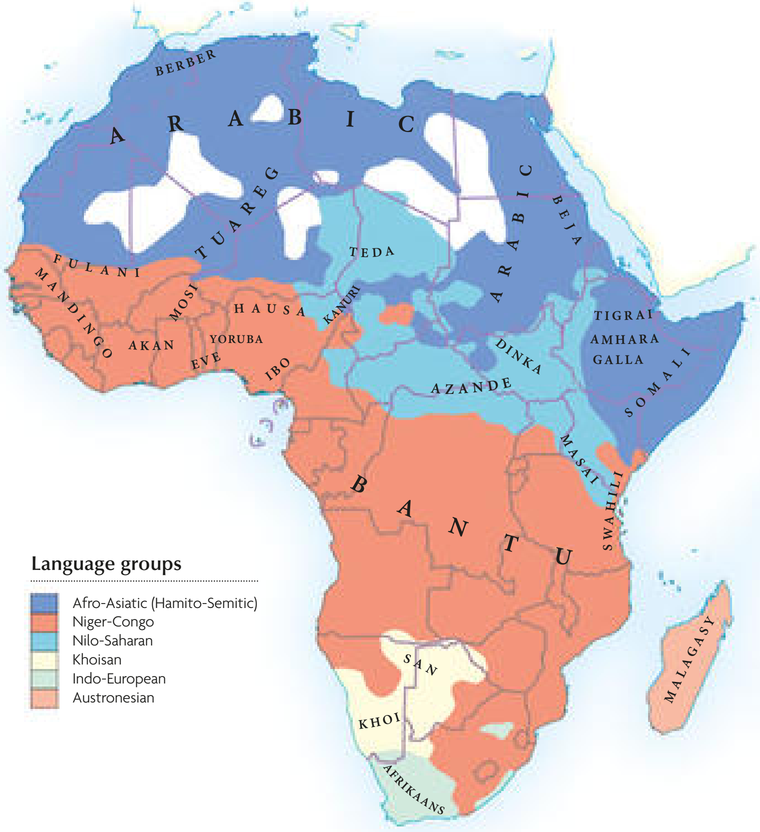


Population

Africa has a rapidly-growing population of over 900 million people, yet over 75% of the continent remains sparsely populated. Most Africans still pursue a traditional rural lifestyle, though urbanization is increasing as people move to the cities in search of employment. The greatest population densities occur where water is more readily available, such as in the Nile Valley, the coasts of North and West Africa, along the Niger, the eastern African highlands, and in South Africa.



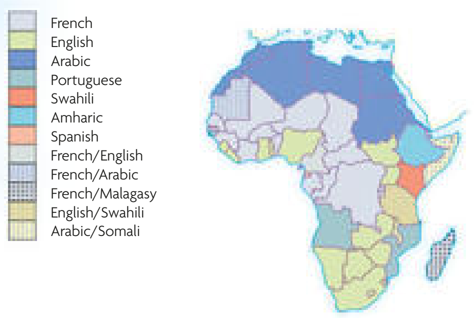




Languages

Three major world languages act as *lingua francas* across the African continent: Arabic in North Africa; English in southern and eastern Africa and Nigeria; and French in Central and West Africa, and in Madagascar. A huge number of African languages are spoken as well—over 2000 have been recorded, with more than 400 in Nigeria alone—reflecting the continuing importance of traditional cultures and values. In the north of the continent, the extensive use of Arabic reflects Middle Eastern influences while Bantu languages are widely-spoken across much of southern Africa.

Official African Languages



AFRICA – Physical



Scale 1:35,000,000

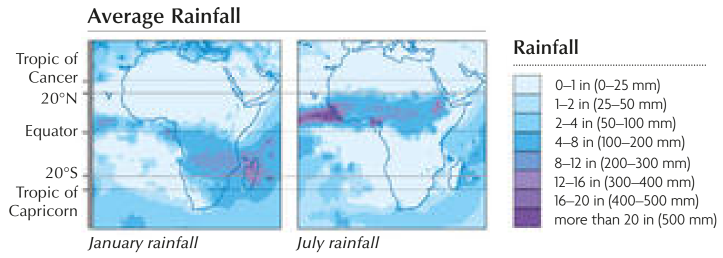
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

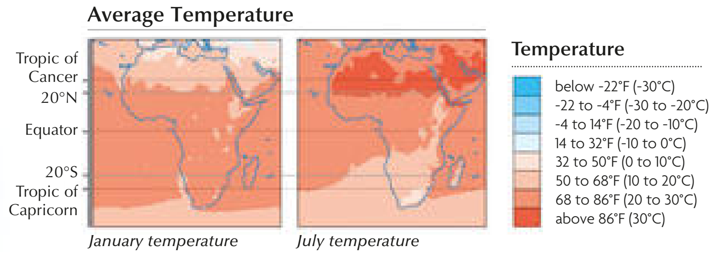
0 250 500 750 1000 1250 Km

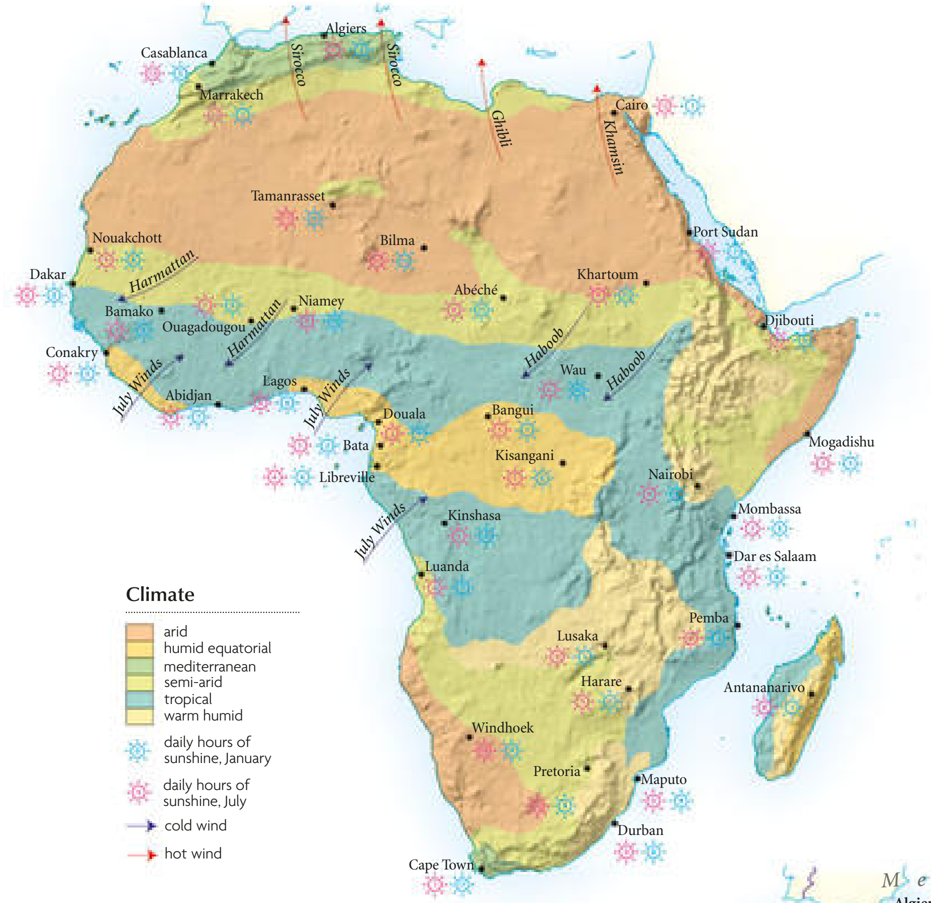
0 250 500 750 1000 1250 Miles

Climate

The climates of Africa range from mediterranean to arid, dry savannah and humid equatorial. In East Africa, where snow settles at the summit of volcanoes such as Kilimanjaro, climate is also modified by altitude. The winds of the Sahara export millions of tons of dust a year both northward and eastward.

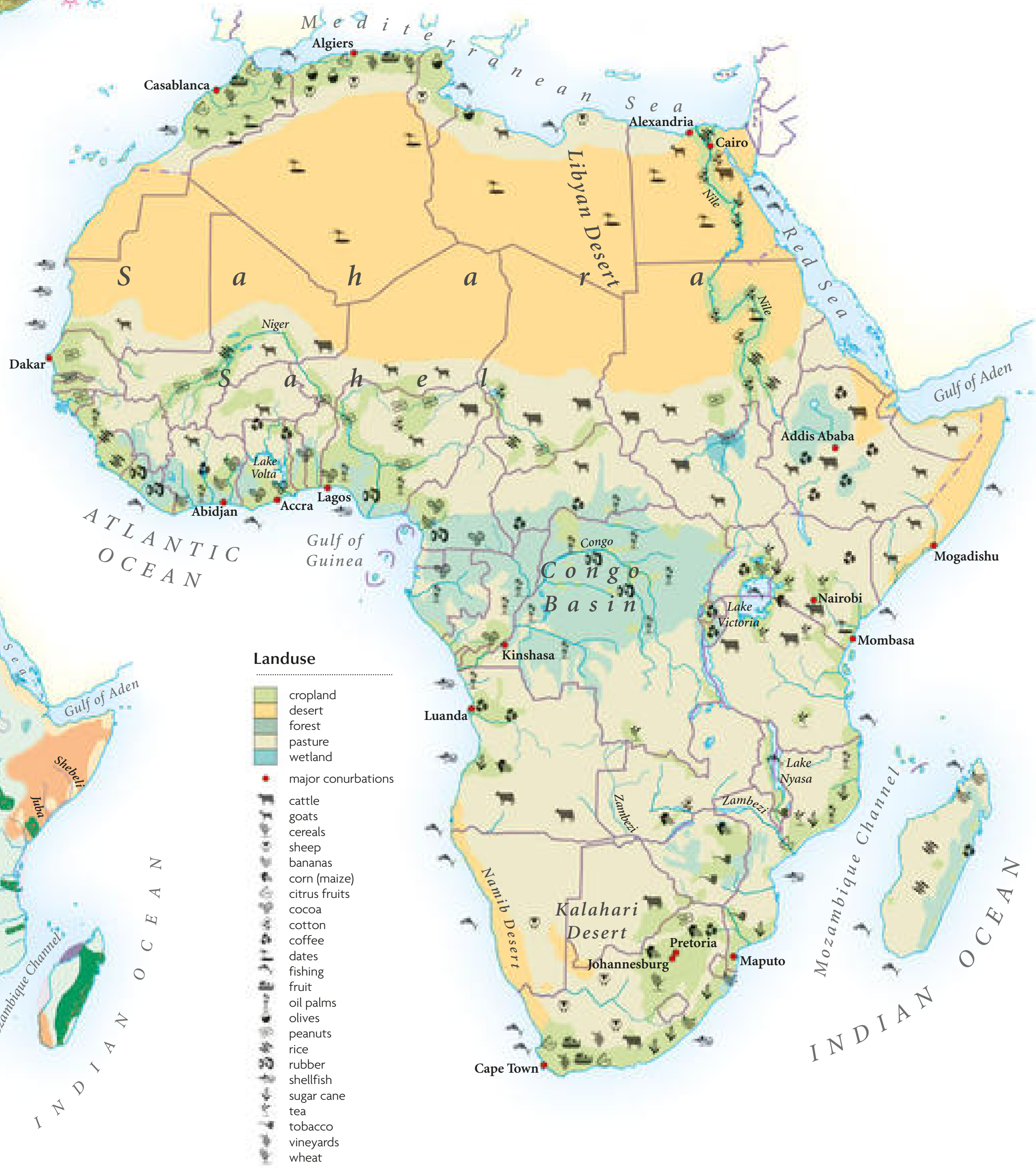






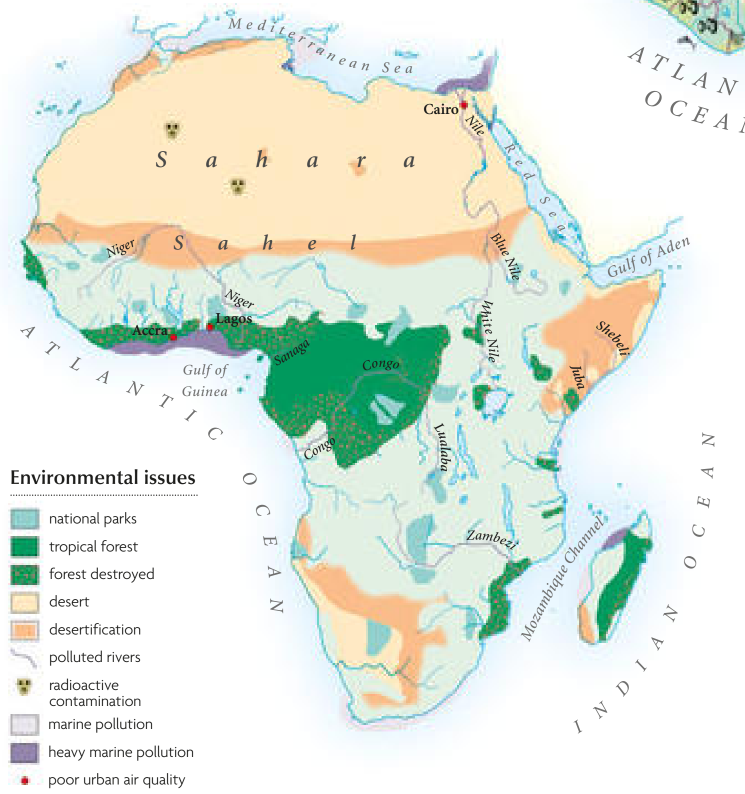
Land use

Some of Africa's most productive agricultural land is found in the eastern volcanic uplands, where fertile soils support a wide range of valuable export crops including vegetables, tea, and coffee. The most widely-grown grain is corn and peanuts (groundnuts) are particularly important in West Africa. Without intensive irrigation, cultivation is not possible in desert regions and unreliable rainfall in other areas limits crop production. Pastoral herding is most commonly found in these marginal lands. Substantial local fishing industries are found along coasts and in vast lakes such as Lake Nyasa and Lake Victoria.



Environmental issues

One of Africa's most serious environmental problems occurs in marginal areas such as the Sahel where scrub and forest clearance, often for cooking fuel, combined with overgrazing, are causing desertification. Game reserves in southern and eastern Africa have helped to preserve many endangered animals, although the needs of growing populations have led to conflict over land use, and poaching is a serious problem.



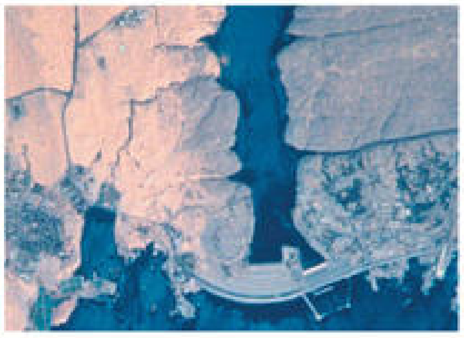
AFRICA



1 AL KHUFRAH, LIBYA
The circular irrigation patterns at this oasis have developed through the use of sprinkler units sweeping around a central point.



2 ERG DU DJOURAB, CHAD
Looking southwest, the pale area, just south of the darker Tibesti mountains on the right and the Ennedi plateau on the left, shows a desert sandstorm in motion.



3 ASWAN HIGH DAM, EGYPT
Completed in 1970 the dam controls flooding along the lower stretches of the Nile river.



4 KHARTOUM, SUDAN
The capital of Sudan lies at the junction of the Blue Nile, flowing from the east, and the broad White Nile, flowing from the south.



9 LAKE FAGUIBINE, MALI
Part of the Niger river's "inland delta," a region of lakes, creeks and backwaters near Tombouctou.



10 TASSILI-N-AJJER, ALGERIA
These sand dunes, one of a variety found in the Sahara, overlie the darker sandstone bedrock of the Tassili-n-Ajjer plateau.



11 NIGER DELTA, NIGERIA
At this point lies the vast, low-lying region through which the waters of the Niger river drain into the Gulf of Guinea.



12 CONGO/UBANGI RIVERS, DR CONGO
The confluence of these two rivers lies at the heart of the Congo Basin.

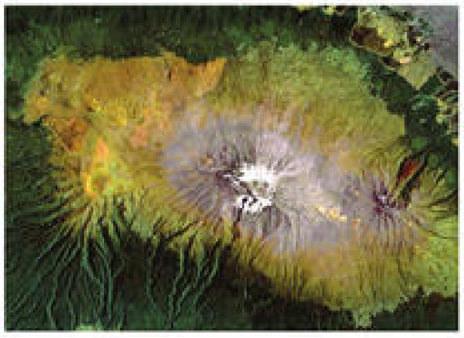




AFAR DEPRESSION, DJIBOUTI 5
This low point is located at the junction of three tectonic plates—the Gulf of Aden to the east, the Red Sea to the north and the Great Rift Valley to the south.



NYIRAGONGO AND NYAMURAGIRA VOLCANOES, DR CONGO 6
These two volcanoes, lying to the west of the Great Rift Valley, last erupted in 2002 and 2001 respectively.



KILIMANJARO, TANZANIA 7
An extinct volcano, its great height modifies the local climate, forcing moist air streams from the Indian Ocean to rise, inducing rain and, higher up, snow.



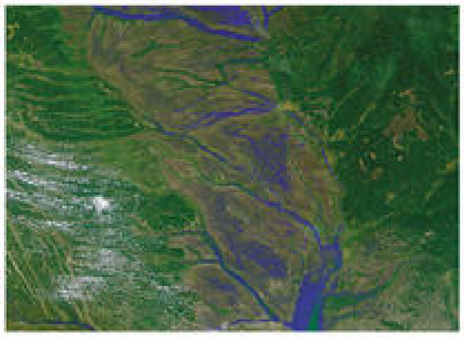
BETSIBOKA RIVER, MADAGASCAR 8
The waters of Madagascar's second longest river are red with sediment as it carries eroded topsoil from the interior and deposits it in the Indian Ocean.



MALEBO POOL, CONGO/DR CONGO 13
A lake in the lower reaches of the Congo river, it hosts two capital cities on its banks, Brazzaville, Congo to the north and Kinshasa, DR Congo to the south.



ZAMBEZI RIVER, ZAMBIA 14
Seasonal flooding of the river and its tributaries turned the Mulonga and Liuwa plains on the Zambia-Angola border into a vast wetland in April 2004



BEIRA, MOZAMBIQUE 15
This port and beach resort lies on the north side of the mouth of the Pungoé river.

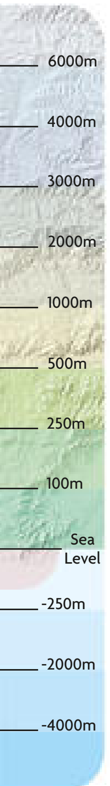


CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA 16
South Africa's third largest city with a population of 2.9 million, it is also the seat of the country's parliament.



Northeast Africa





Scale 1:8,000,000

(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

AFRICA

Northwest Africa





Scale 1:8,000,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

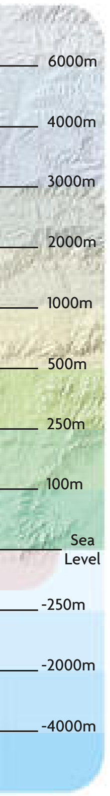


19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

AFRICA

West Africa


A
B
C
D
E
F
G
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
130
290
291
MAURITANIA
SENEGAL
GAMBIA
GUINEA-BISSAU
GUINEA
SIERRA LEONE
LIBERIA
IVORY COAST
NOUAKCHOTT
DAKAR
BANJUL
BISSAU
CONAKRY
FREETOWN
MONROVIA
BAMAKO
OUAGADOUGOU
YAMOUSSOUKRO
Abidjan
Nouâdhibou
DAKHLET NOUÂDHIBOU
INCHIRI
ADRAR
TIRIS ZEMMOUR
TRARZA
BRAKNA
TAGANT
ASSABA
GORGOL
GUIDIMAKA
HODH EL GHARBI
HODH ECH CHARGUI
TOMBOUCTOU
KAYES
KOULIKORO
SÉGOU
SIKASSO
MOPTI
Fouta Djallon
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Cap Barbas
Cap Verga
Cape Palmas
Cape Three Points
CAPE VERDE
Santo Antão
Mindelo
São Vicente
Ilhas de Barlavento
São Nicolau
Boa Vista
Maio
Fogo
Santiago
São Filipe
PRAIA
Ilhas de Sotavento
Scale 1:8,000,000
ASCENSION ISLAND (to UK)
GEORGETOWN
Scale 1:750,000
TRISTAN DA CUNHA (to UK)
EDINBURGH
Queen Mary's Peak 2060m
Scale 1:750,000
SAINT HELENA (to UK)
JAMESTOWN
Diana's Peak 820m
Scale 1:750,000


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:8,000,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

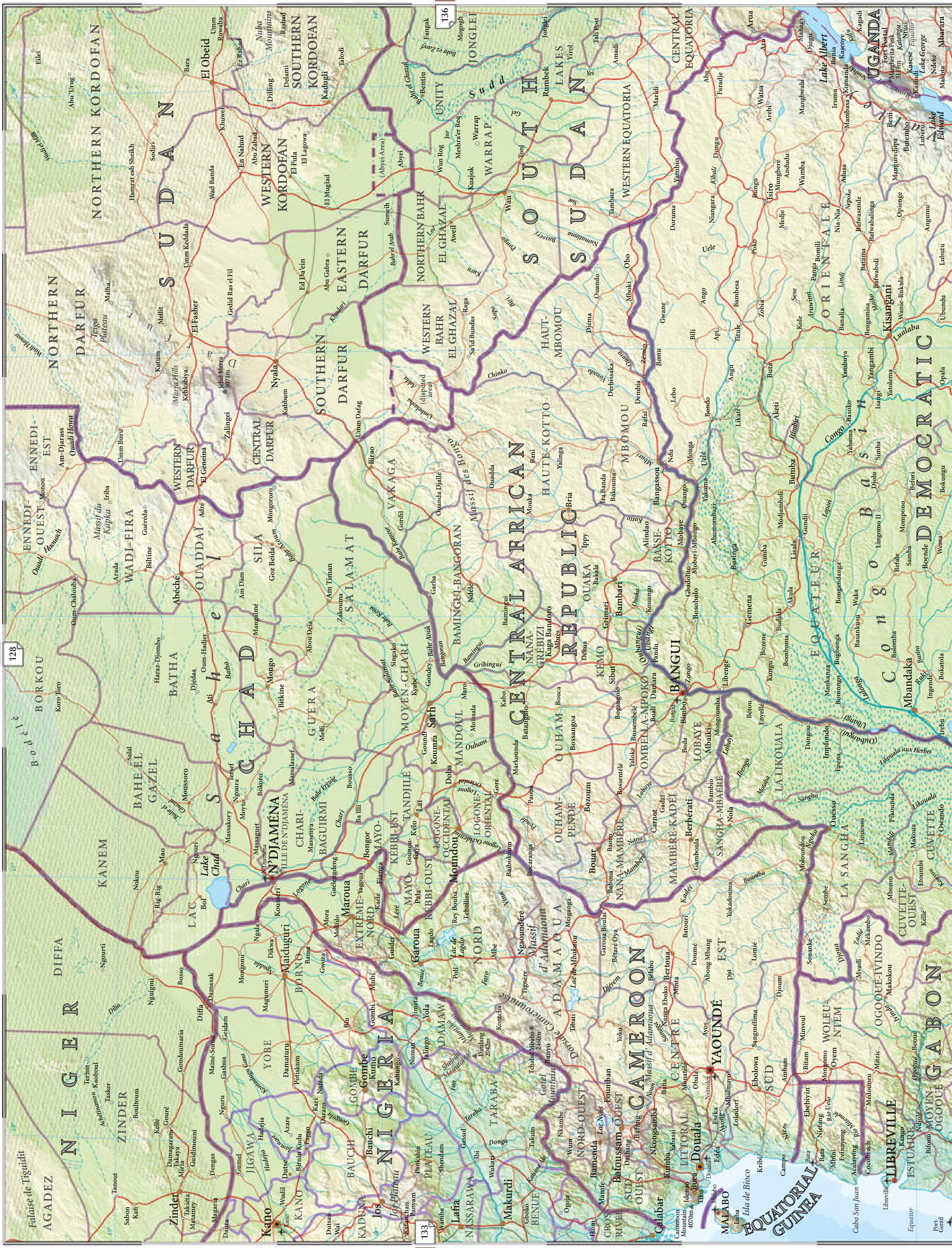
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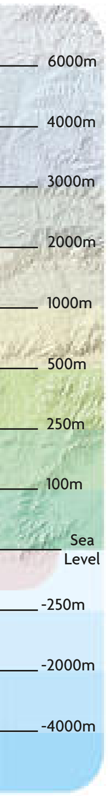
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



131
134
135

Central Africa



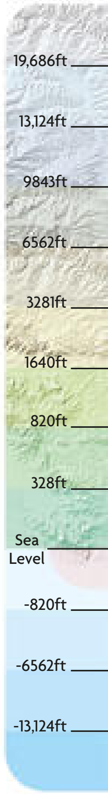


Scale 1:8,000,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

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0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

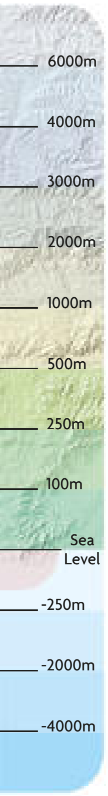
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





East Africa


SAUDI ARABIA
YEMEN
ṢAN'Ā' (SANA)
ERITREA
ASMARA
DJIBOUTI
ETHIOPIA
ĀDĪS ĀBEBA (ADDIS ABABA)
SOMALILAND
SOMALIA
MUQDISHO (MOGADISHU)
SUDAN
KHARTOUM
SOUTH SUDAN
JUBA
KENYA
UGANDA
Red Sea
Gulf of Aden
Horn of Africa
Ethiopian Highlands
Danakil Desert
Lake Turkana (Lake Rudolf)
T'ana Hāyk'
KENYA: ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:8,000,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Southern Africa



Scale 1:8,000,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

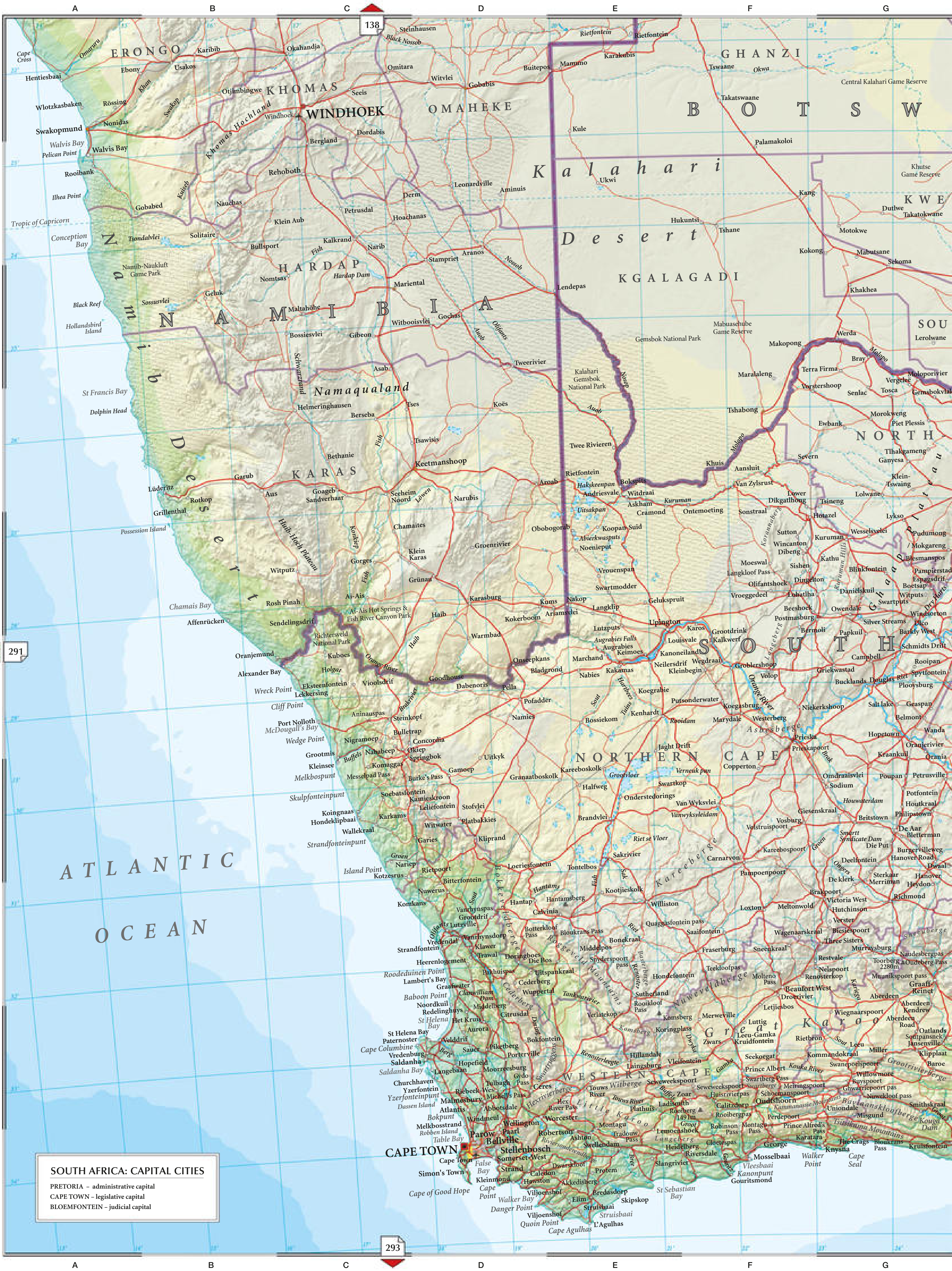
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
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- below 10,000



19,686ft
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3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

South Africa





Scale 1:4,650,000

(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



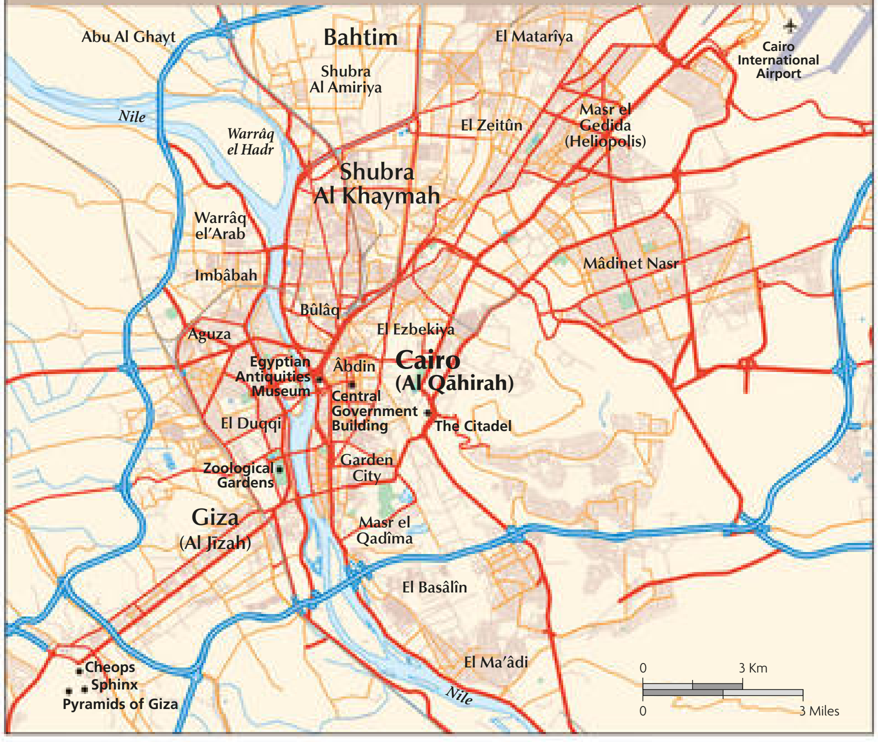
19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

A B C D E F G

Algiers



Cairo



Cape Town



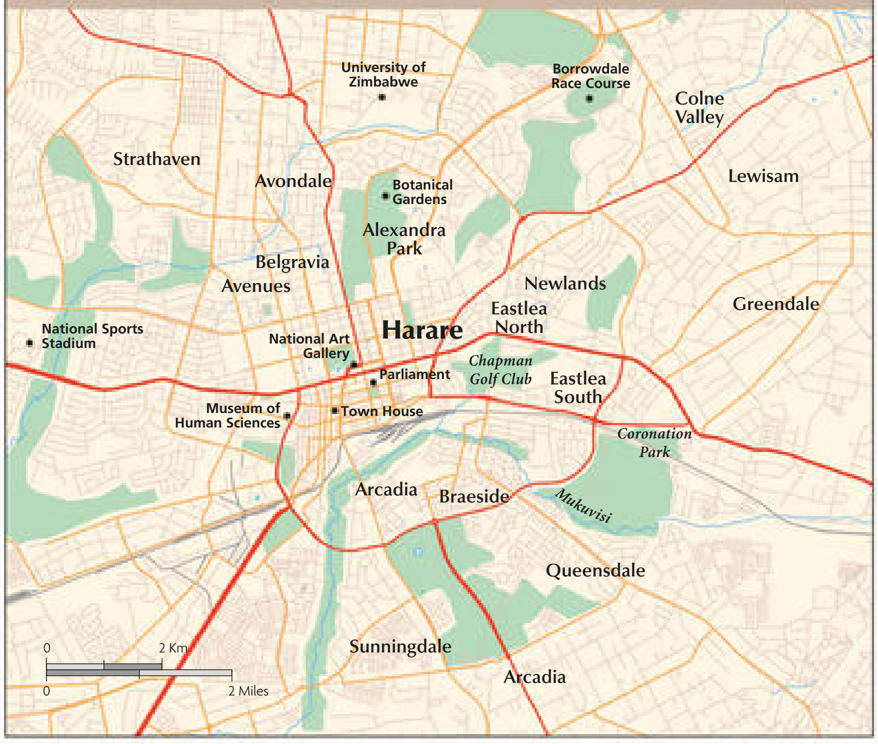
Casablanca



Dakar



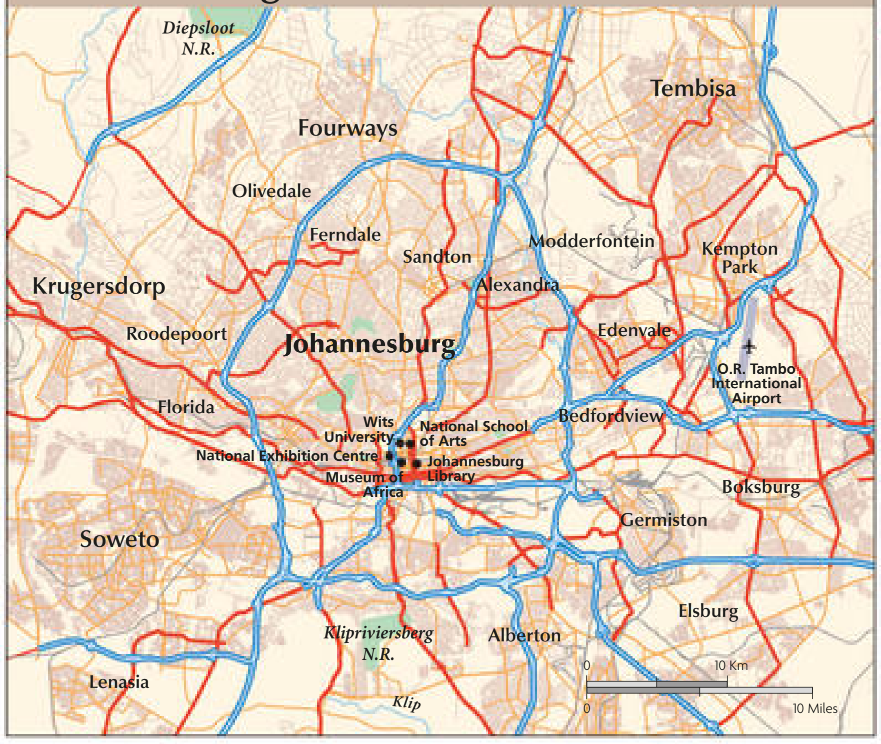
Harare



A B C D E F G

H I J K L M N

Johannesburg



Kinshasa



Lagos



Nairobi



Tripoli



Tunis



H I J K L M N

EUROPE


ARCTIC OCEAN
North Pole
Ellesmere Island
Greenland
King Frederik VIII Land
King Christian X Land
Greenland Sea
Spitsbergen
Franz Josef Land
Ostrov Rudol'fa
Severnaya Zemlya
Laptev Sea
Kara Sea
Poluostrov Taymyr
Mys Flissingskiy
Ostrov Severnyy
Ostrov Yuzhnyy
Novaya Zemlya
Barents Sea
Bjørnøya
Barents Trough
Poluostrov Yamal
Baydaratskaya Guba
Kara Strait
Gulf of Ob
Yenisey
EURASIAN PLATE
NORTH AMERICAN PLATE
Jan Mayen Fracture Zone
Jan Mayen
Jan Mayen Ridge
Kolbeinsey Ridge
Denmark Strait
Arctic Circle
Iceland Plateau
Bjargtangar
Iceland
Vatnajökull
Reykjanes Ridge
Norwegian Sea
Norwegian Basin
Voring Plateau
Faroe-Iceland Ridge
Iceland Basin
Faroe Islands
Bill Baileys Bank
Faroe-Shetland Trough
Shetland Islands
Hatton Ridge
Rockall Rise
Feni Ridge
Rockall Trough
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Porcupine Plain
Outer Hebrides
Orkney Islands
Viking Bank
Norwegian Trench
Ben Nevis 1343m
Grampian Mountains
North Channel
Ireland
Shannon
Irish Sea
British Isles
Pennines
Snowdon 1085m
Trent
Britain
The Fens
Thames
Severn
Celtic Sea
St. George's Channel
Bristol Channel
Celtic Shelf
Land's End
English Channel
Channel Islands
Strait of Dover
North Sea
Great Fisher Bank
Dogger Bank
Jutland Bank
Jutland
Skagerrak
Kattegat
Sjælland
Frisian Islands
Tromsøflaket
Fugløya Bank
North Cape
Nordkinn
Vesterålen
Lofoten
Traena Bank
Kebnekaise 2117m
Inarijärvi
Torneälven
Luleälven
Kemijoki
Oulujoki
Umeälven
Gulf of Bothnia
Scandinavia
Kölen
Galdhøpiggen 2469m
Ljungan
Ljusnan
Glåma
Vänern
Vättern
Gotland
Åland
Gulf of Finland
Gulf of Riga
Baltic Sea
Murmansk Rise
Kola Peninsula
Ozero Imandra
White Sea
Ostrov Kolguyev
Poluostrov Kanin
Pechora
Timanskiy Kryazh
Mezen'
Northern Dvina
Onega Bay
Ozero Vygozero
Lake Onega
Lake Ladoga
Onega
Svir
Ozero Beloye
Sukhona
Yug
Vychegda
Vaga
Rybinsk Reservoir
Lake Peipus
Lake Pskov
Lake Ilmen
Msta
Western Dvina
Neman
North European Plain
Vistula
Oder
Warta
Elbe
Bug
Byerezino
Dnieper
Pripet Marshes
Desna
Dnieper Lowlands
Kiev Reservoir
Kremenchuk Reservoir
Podil's'ka Vysochina
Pivdennyy Buh
Dniester
Central Russian Upland
Seym
Don
Khoper
Volga Upland
Volga
Samara
Ural
Kama
Chusovaya
Votkinsk Reservoir
Kuybyshev Reservoir
Vyatka
Belaya
Sura
Oka
Moskva
Gor'kiy Reservoir
Unzha
West Siberian Plain
Ural Mountains
Gora Narodnaya 1895m
Tobol
Irtysh
Ob'
ASIA
EUROPE
Harz
Ardennes
Rhine
Meuse
Moselle
Marne
Seine
Loire
Cher
Vienne
Dordogne
Lot
Garonne
Massif Central
Cévennes
Rhône
Saône
Vosges
Black Forest
Danube
Lake Constance
Lake Geneva
Mont Blanc 4808m
Alps
Lake Garda
Po
Dolomites
Bay of Biscay
Biscay Plain
Charcot Seamounts
Azores-Biscay Rise
Theta Gap
Galicia Bank
Iberian Plain
Miño
Cordillera Cantábrica
Iberian Peninsula
Pyrenees
Aneto 3404m
Aragón
Ebro
Duero
Douro
Sistema Central
Sistema Ibérico
Tagus
Cabo da Roca
Guadiana
Júcar
Sierra Morena
Guadalquivir
Segura
Sistemas Béticos
Sierra Nevada
Tagus Plain
Gorringe Ridge
Cape Saint Vincent
Punta de Tarifa
Strait of Gibraltar
Alboran Sea
Horseshoe Seamounts
Ampère Seamount
Seine Plain
Seine Seamount
Madeira
Dacia Seamount
Agadir Canyon
Canary Islands
Gulf of Lion
Ligurian Sea
Arno
Corsica
Strait of Bonifacio
Sardinia
Balearic Islands
Gulf of Valencia
Algerian Basin
Tyrrhenian Sea
Tyrrhenian Basin
Apennines
Tiber
Corno Grande 2912m
Adriatic Sea
Adriatic Basin
Gulf of Taranto
Strait of Otranto
Strait of Messina
Mount Etna 3340m
Sicily
Strait of Sicily
Malta
Ionian Sea
Ionian Basin
Mediterranean Sea
Mediterranean Ridge
EURASIAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
Morava
Bakony
Lake Balaton
Great Hungarian Plain
Drava
Sava
Tisza
Mureş
Carpathian Mountains
Siret
Prut
Transylvanian Alps
Dinaric Alps
Drina
Danube
Balkan Mountains
Lake Scutari
Rhodope Mountains
Maritsa
Lake Ohrid
Lake Prespa
Vardar
Pindus Mountains
Peloponnese
Aegean Sea
Mirtoan Sea
Sea of Crete
Crete
Gávdos
Karpathos Strait
Kasos Strait
Rhodes Basin
Rhodes
Sea of Marmara
Bosporus
Black Sea Lowland
Sea of Azov
Crimea
Kerch Strait
Kuban'
Black Sea
Caucasus
El'brus 5642m
Terek
Manych
Yergeni
Caspian Depression
Kirghiz Steppe
Tsimlyansk Reservoir
Donets
EURASIAN PLATE
ANATOLIAN PLATE
Anatolia
Lake Tuz
Lake Van
Murat Nehri
Taurus Mountains
Gulf of Antalya
Cyprus
Cyprus Basin
Euphrates
ARABIAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
Levantine Basin
Jordan
Dead Sea
Nile Fan
Suez Canal
Sinai
Gulf of Suez
Gulf of Aqaba
Red Sea
Nile
Qattara Depression -133m
Western Desert
Libyan Desert
Gulf of Sirte
Chott el Jerid
Oued Chelif
Tell Atlas
Saharan Atlas
Atlas Mountains
Middle Atlas
High Atlas
Rif
Sebou
Oum er Rbia
Moulouya
Grand Erg Occidental
Grand Erg Oriental
'Erg Iguidi
Erg Chech
AFRICA
SAHARA

Europe is the world's second smallest continent with a total area of 4,053,309 sq miles (10,498,000 sq km). It comprises 46 separate countries, including Turkey and the Russian Federation, although the greater parts of these nations lie in Asia.



FACTFILE

- **N Most Northerly Point:** Ostrov Rudol'fa, Russian Federation 81° 47' N
- **S Most Southerly Point:** Gávdos, Greece 34° 51' N
- **E Most Easterly Point:** Mys Flissingskiy, Novaya Zemlya, Russian Federation 69° 03' E
- **W Most Westerly Point:** Bjargtangar, Iceland 24° 33' W

Largest Lakes:
1. Lake Ladoga, Russian Federation 7100 sq miles (18,390 sq km)
2. Lake Onega, Russian Federation 3819 sq miles (9891 sq km)
3. Vänern, Sweden 2141 sq miles (5545 sq km)
4. Lake Peipus, Estonia/Russian Federation 1372 sq miles (3555 sq km)
5. Vättern, Sweden 737 sq miles (1910 sq km)

Longest Rivers:
1. Volga, Russian Federation 2265 miles (3645 km)
2. Danube, C Europe 1771 miles (2850 km)
3. Dnieper, Belarus/Russian Federation/Ukraine 1421 miles (2287 km)
4. Don, Russian Federation 1162 miles (1870 km)
5. Pechora, Russian Federation 1124 miles (1809 km)

Largest Islands:
1. Britain, 88,700 sq miles (229,800 sq km)
2. Iceland, 39,315 sq miles (101,826 sq km)
3. Ireland, 31,521 sq miles (81,638 sq km)
4. Ostrov Severny, Novaya Zemlya, Russian Federation 18,177 sq miles (47,079 sq km)
5. Spitsbergen, Svalbard 15,051 sq miles (38,981 sq km)

Highest Points:
1. El'brus, Russian Federation 18,510 ft (5642 m)
2. Dykhtau, Russian Federation 17,077 ft (5205 m)
3. Koshtantau, Russian Federation 16,877 ft (5144 m)
4. Gora Kazbek, Georgia/Russian Federation 16,647 ft (5074 m)
5. Gora Dzhangitau, Georgia/Russian Federation 16,571 ft (5051 m)

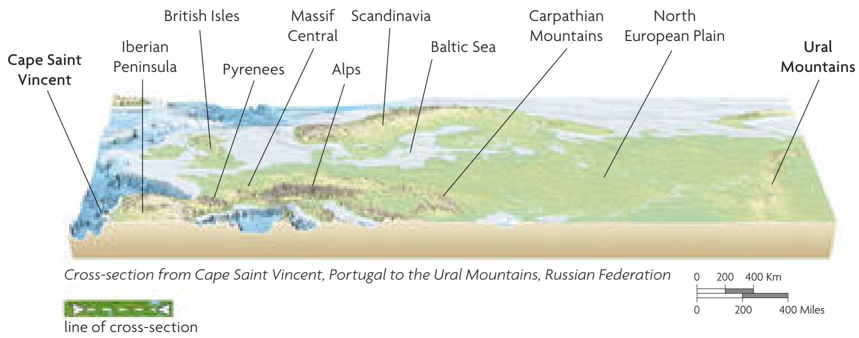
Lowest Point:
Caspian Depression, Russian Federation -92 ft (-28 m) below sea level

Highest recorded temperature:
Seville, Spain 122°F (50°C)

Lowest recorded temperature:
Ust'-Shchuger, Russian Federation -72.6°F (-58.1°C)

Wettest Place:
Crkvice, Bosnia and Herzegovina 183 in (4648 mm)

Driest Place:
Astrakhan', Russian Federation 6.4 in (162.5 mm)



Cross-section from Cape Saint Vincent, Portugal to the Ural Mountains, Russian Federation

EUROPE – Political

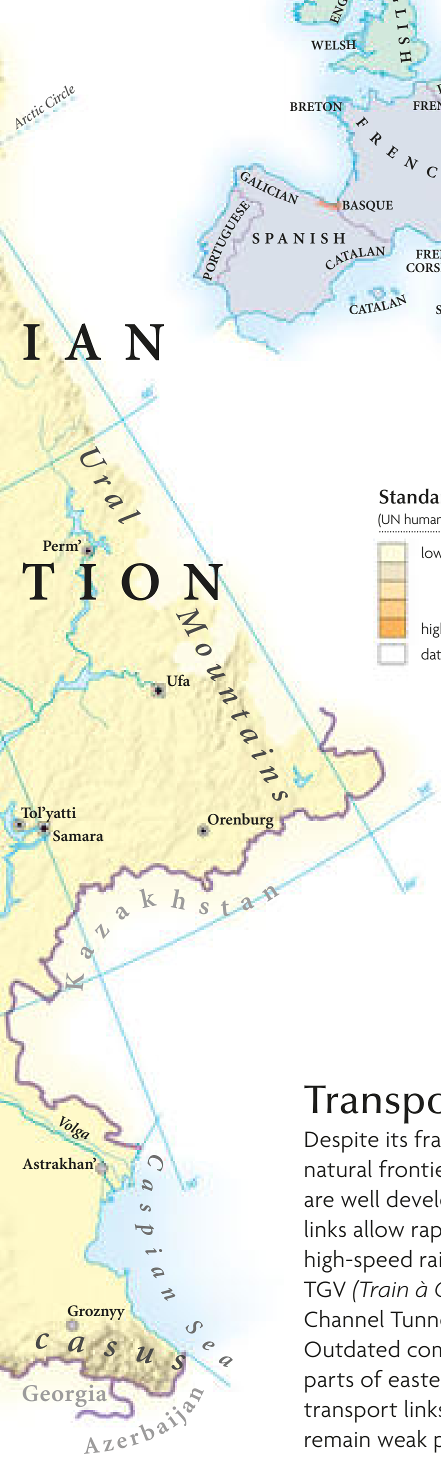
Political

The political boundaries of Europe have changed many times, especially during the 20th century in the aftermath of two world wars, the break-up of the empires of Austria-Hungary, Nazi Germany, and, toward the end of the century, the collapse of communism in eastern Europe. The fragmentation of Yugoslavia has again altered the political map of Europe, highlighting a trend towards nationalism and devolution. In contrast, economic federalism is growing. In 1958, the formation of the European Economic Community (now the European Union or EU) started a move toward economic and political union and increasing internal migration. This process is still ongoing and the accession of Bulgaria and Romania in January 2007, and Croatia in 2013, brought the number of EU member states to twenty eight. Of these, nineteen have joined the Eurozone by adopting the Euro as their official currency.

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- Country capital

Borders
- full international border





Language groups

- Turkic
- Albanian
- Finno-Ugric/Samoyed
- Germanic
- Slavic
- Romance
- Basque
- Baltic
- Celtic
- Greek
- Caucasian
- Iranian
- Mongol



Languages

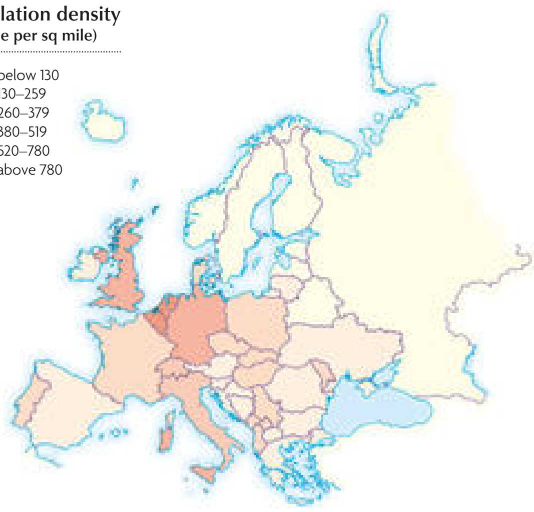
There are three main European language groups: Germanic languages predominate in central and northern Europe; Romance languages in western and Mediterranean Europe and Romania; while Slavic languages are spoken in eastern Europe and the Russian Federation. Isolated pockets of local languages, such as Basque and Gaelic, persist and frequently provide a focus for national identity.

Population

Europe is a densely populated, urbanized continent; in Belgium over 90% of people live in urban areas. The highest population densities are found in an area stretching east from southern Britain and northern France, into Germany. The northern fringes are only sparsely populated.

Population density
(people per sq mile)

- below 130
- 130–259
- 260–379
- 380–519
- 520–780
- above 780



Standard of living
(UN human development index)

- low
- high
- data not available



Standard of living

Living standards in western Europe are among the highest in the world, although there is a growing sector of homeless, jobless people. Eastern Europeans have lower overall standards of living—a legacy of stagnated economies.

Transportation

Despite its fragmented geography and many natural frontiers, communications in Europe are well developed. Extensive motorway links allow rapid road transportation, while high-speed rail connections like France's TGV *(Train à Grande Vitesse)*, and the Channel Tunnel have improved rail travel. Outdated communication infrastructures in parts of eastern Europe, and insufficient transport links across the Alps, however, remain weak parts of the network.

Transportation

- major roads and motorways
- major railroads
- international borders
- transport intersections
- major international airports
- major ports



EUROPE – Physical



Scale 1:22,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

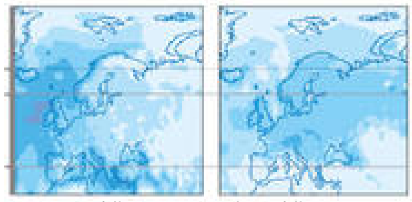
0 200 400 600 800 1000 Km

0 200 400 600 800 1000 Miles

Climate

Europe experiences few extremes in either rainfall or temperature, with the exception of the far north and south. Along the west coast, the warm currents of the North Atlantic Drift moderate temperatures. Although east–west air movement is relatively unimpeded by relief, the Alpine Uplands halt the progress of north–south air masses, protecting most of the Mediterranean from cold, north winds.

Average Rainfall

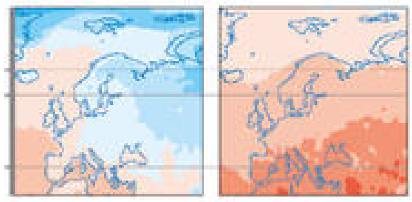


January rainfall *July rainfall*

Rainfall

- 0–1 in (0–25 mm)
- 1–2 in (25–50 mm)
- 2–4 in (50–100 mm)
- 4–8 in (100–200 mm)
- 8–12 in (200–300 mm)
- 12–16 in (300–400 mm)
- 16–20 in (400–500 mm)
- more than 20 in (500 mm)

Average Temperature



January temperature *July temperature*

Temperature

- below -22°F (-30°C)
- -22 to -4°F (-30 to -20°C)
- -4 to 14°F (-20 to -10°C)
- 14 to 32°F (-10 to 0°C)
- 32 to 50°F (0 to 10°C)
- 50 to 68°F (10 to 20°C)
- 68 to 86°F (20 to 30°C)
- above 86°F (30°C)

Climate

- tundra
- subarctic
- cool continental
- warm humid
- mediterranean
- semi-arid
- daily hours of sunshine, January
- daily hours of sunshine, July
- cold wind
- hot wind





Environmental issues

The partially enclosed waters of the Baltic and Mediterranean seas have become heavily polluted, while the Barents Sea is contaminated with spent nuclear fuel from Russia's navy. Acid rain, caused by emissions from factories and power stations, is actively destroying northern forests. As a result, pressure is growing to safeguard Europe's natural environment and prevent further deterioration.

Environmental issues

- national parks
- risk of acid rain
- polluted rivers
- radioactive contamination
- marine pollution
- heavy marine pollution
- poor urban air quality

Land use

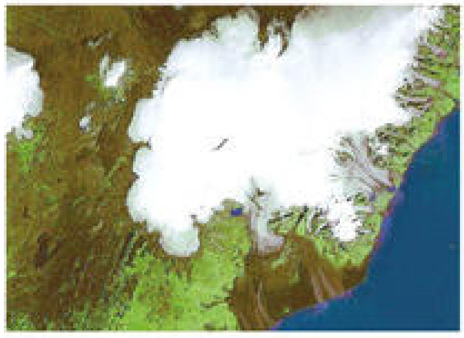
Europe's swelling urban population and the outward expansion of many cities has created acute competition for land. Despite this, European resourcefulness has maximized land potential, and over half of Europe's land is still used for a wide variety of agricultural purposes. Land in northern Europe is used for cattle-rearing, pasture, and arable crops. Towards the Mediterranean, the mild climate allows the growing of grapes for wine; olives, sunflowers, tobacco and citrus fruits. EU subsidies, however, have resulted in massive overproduction and a land "set-aside" policy has been introduced.

Using the land and sea

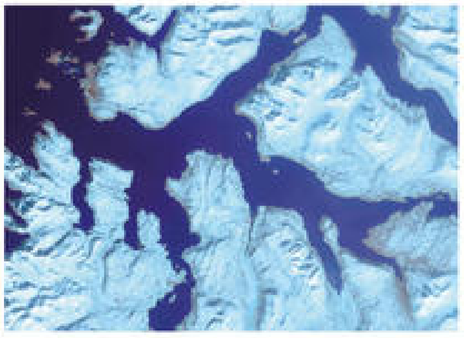
- cropland
- forest
- ice cap
- mountain region
- pasture
- tundra
- wetland
- major conurbations
- cattle
- goats
- pigs
- poultry
- reindeer
- sheep
- cereals
- citrus fruits
- cotton
- fishing
- fodder
- fruit
- olive oil
- potatoes
- rice
- root crops
- roses
- shellfish
- sunflowers
- timber
- tobacco
- vineyards



EUROPE







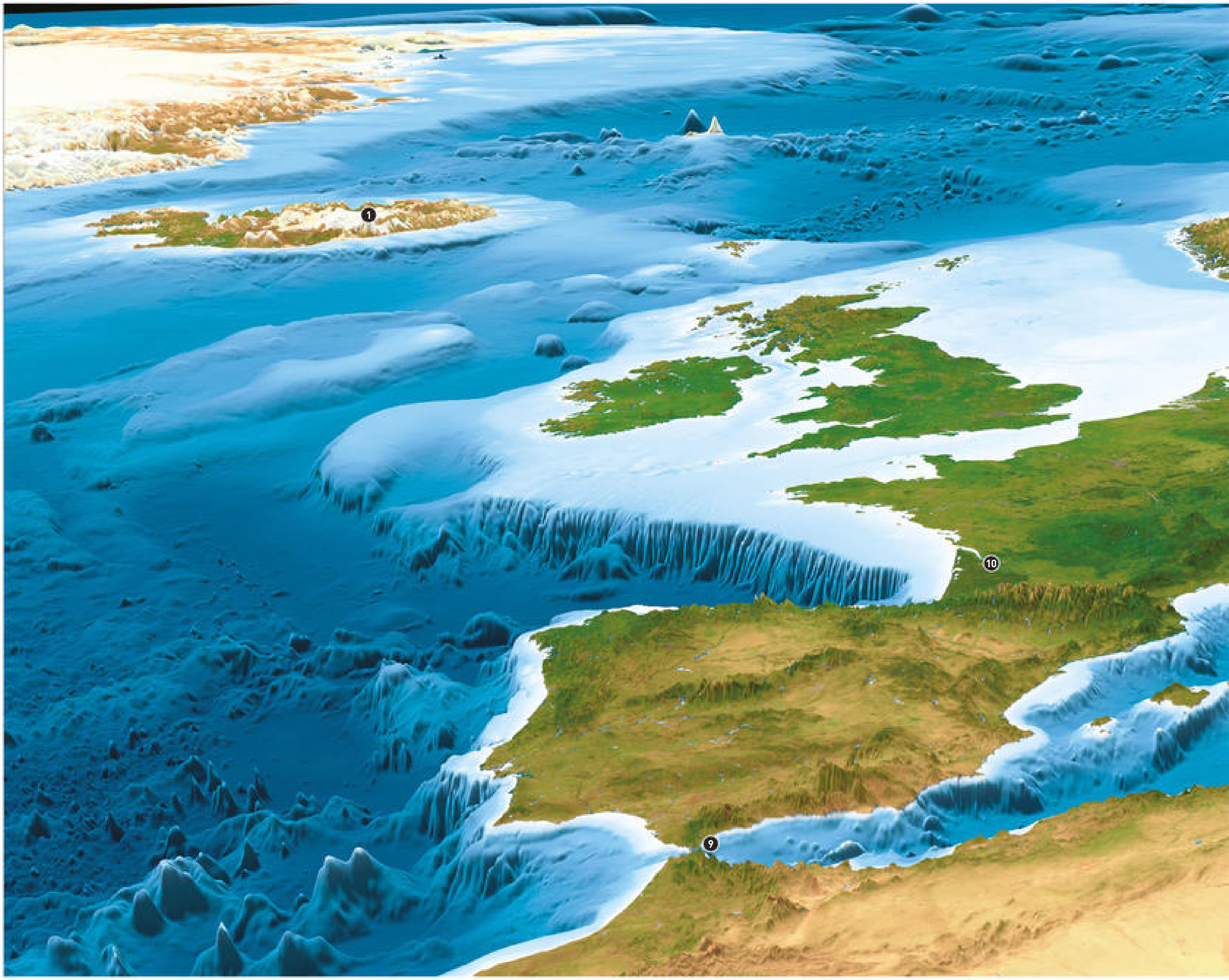


1 VATNAJÖKULL, ICELAND
Europe's largest ice cap is located in the southeast of this Atlantic island.

2 ORESUND LINK, DENMARK/SWEDEN
This link was opened to traffic in 2000, joining the Danish capital, Copenhagen, with the Swedish town of Malmö across the waters of the Oresund Strait.

3 BALSFJORD, NORWAY
Fjords were cut into Norway's west coast by glaciers during the last ice age but as the ice retreated rising sea-levels flooded the valleys left behind.

4 PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
In August 2002 some parts of the capital were still under water after the worst floods in living memory.



9 GIBRALTAR
A British colony since 1713, this rocky promontory commands a strategic position at the southern end of the Iberian Peninsula.

10 BORDEAUX, FRANCE
Famous for its wines, this city sits on the west bank of the Garonne river, which is joined from the east by the Dordogne river.

11 SOUTH FLEVOLAND, NETHERLANDS
This polder was reclaimed from the sea in the early 1970s and is now home to extensive farmland and small towns.

12 RHINE, GERMANY
The Rhine has been straightened in places, such as here, just south of Mannheim, to ease navigation.







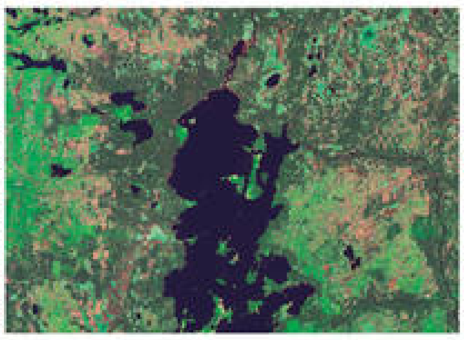




HEL PENINSULA, POLAND 5
The long spit of this peninsula encloses Puck Bay and shelters the important port of Gdynia.



TALLINN, ESTONIA 6
The capital and main port of Estonia has become a popular tourist destination in recent years.



LAKE VODLOZERO, RUSSIAN FEDERATION 7
The lake lies within a national park, which protects one of the most untouched wilderness areas in Europe and encompasses plains, taiga forests, and wetlands.



DANUBE DELTA, ROMANIA 8
The Danube river splits into several channels as it flows into the Black Sea, forming one of Europe's most important wetland ecosystems.



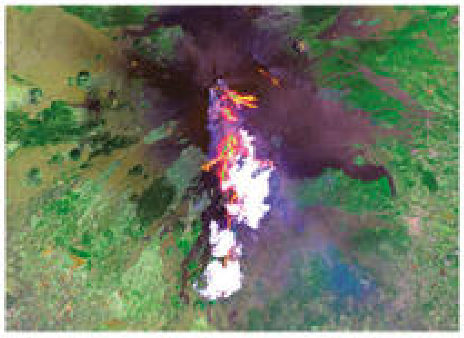
VENICE, ITALY 13
Occupying the largest island in a sheltered lagoon at the north end of the Adriatic, this city was founded in 452 CE and grew rich on an extensive trading network.



ISTRA PENINSULA, CROATIA 14
This triangular peninsula marks the northern extent of Croatia's Dalmatian coastline.



MOUNT ETNA, SICILY, ITALY 15
This combination of visible and thermal images shows the volcano erupting in July 2001 and clearly indicates the major lava flows.



KEFALLONIÁ, GREECE 16
The largest of the Ionian Islands off Greece's west coast, Kefalloniá is mountainous with relatively high rainfall.



Scandinavia, Finland & Iceland

6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m



Scale 1:4,750,000

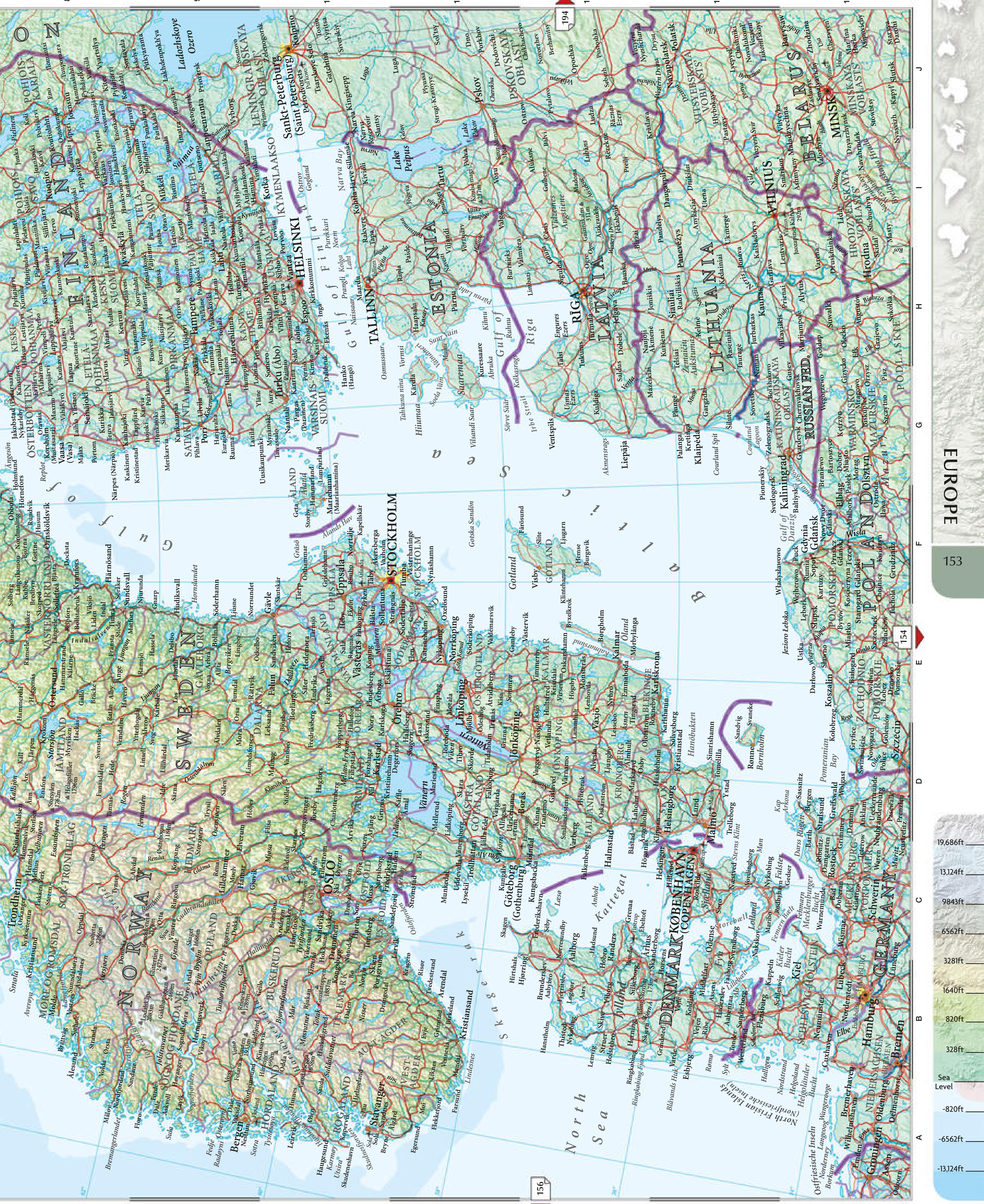
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

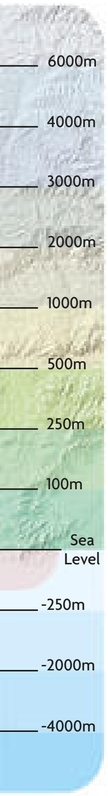
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Southern Scandinavia

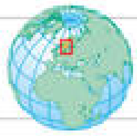


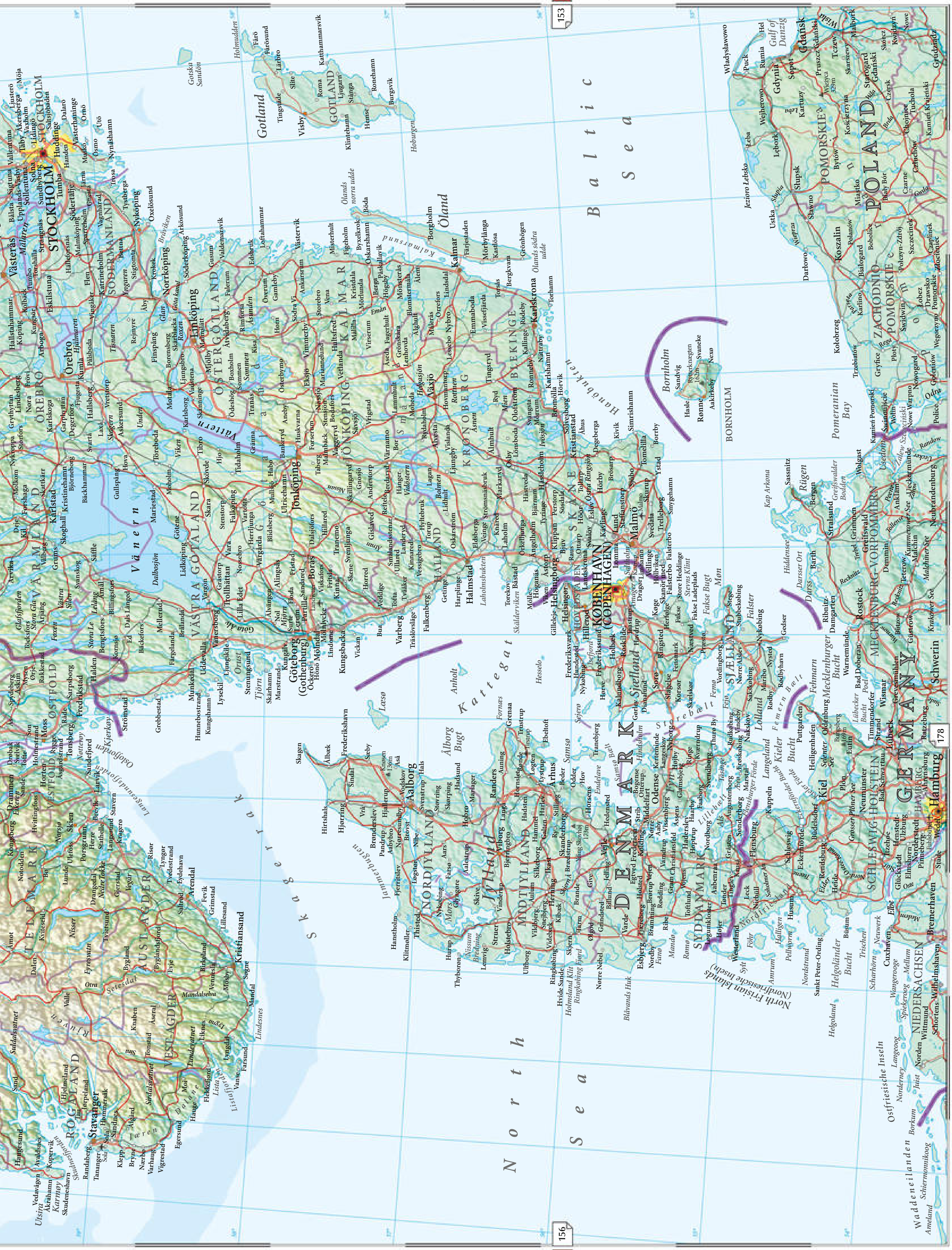


Scale 1:2,750,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

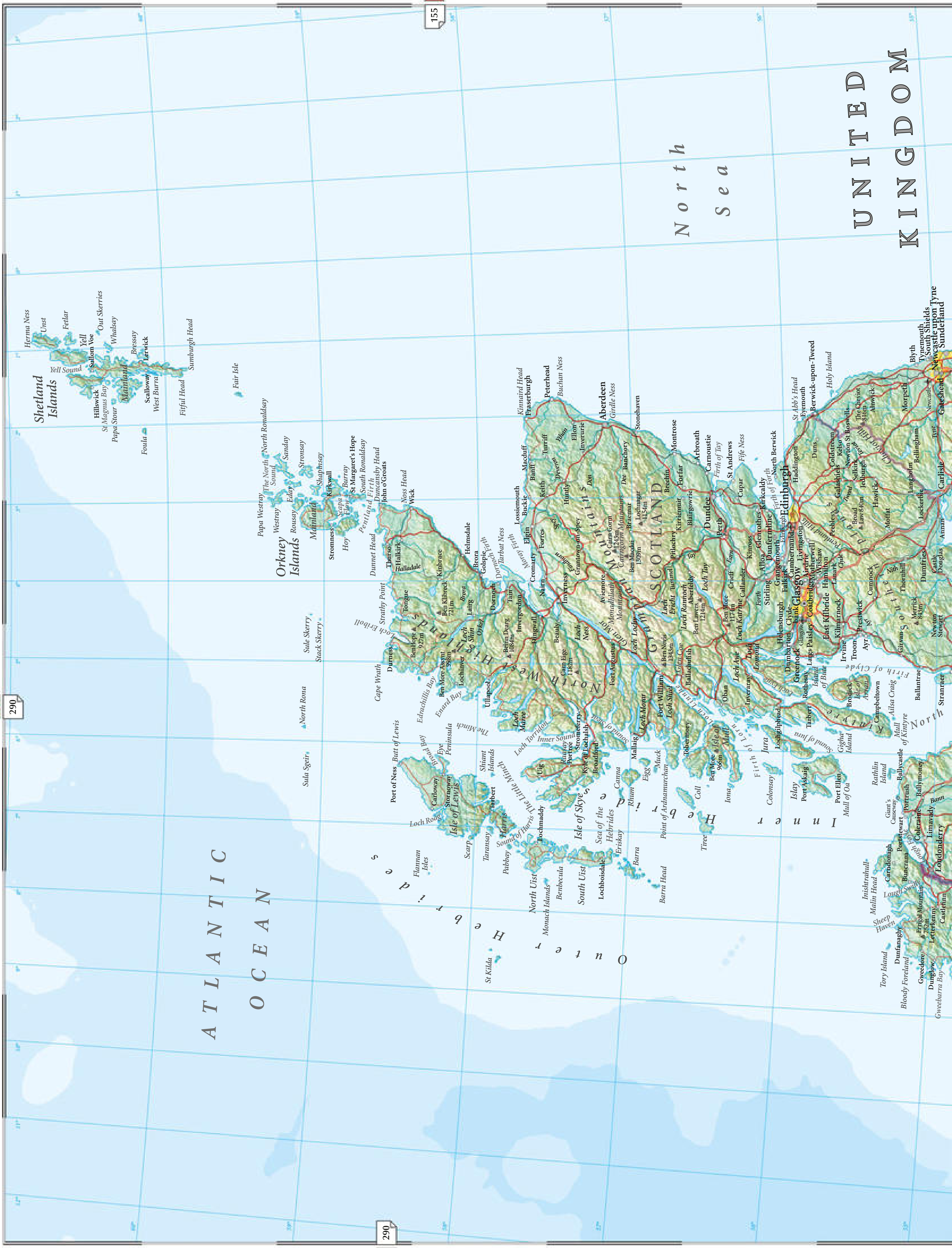
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





EUROPE

United Kingdom & Ireland



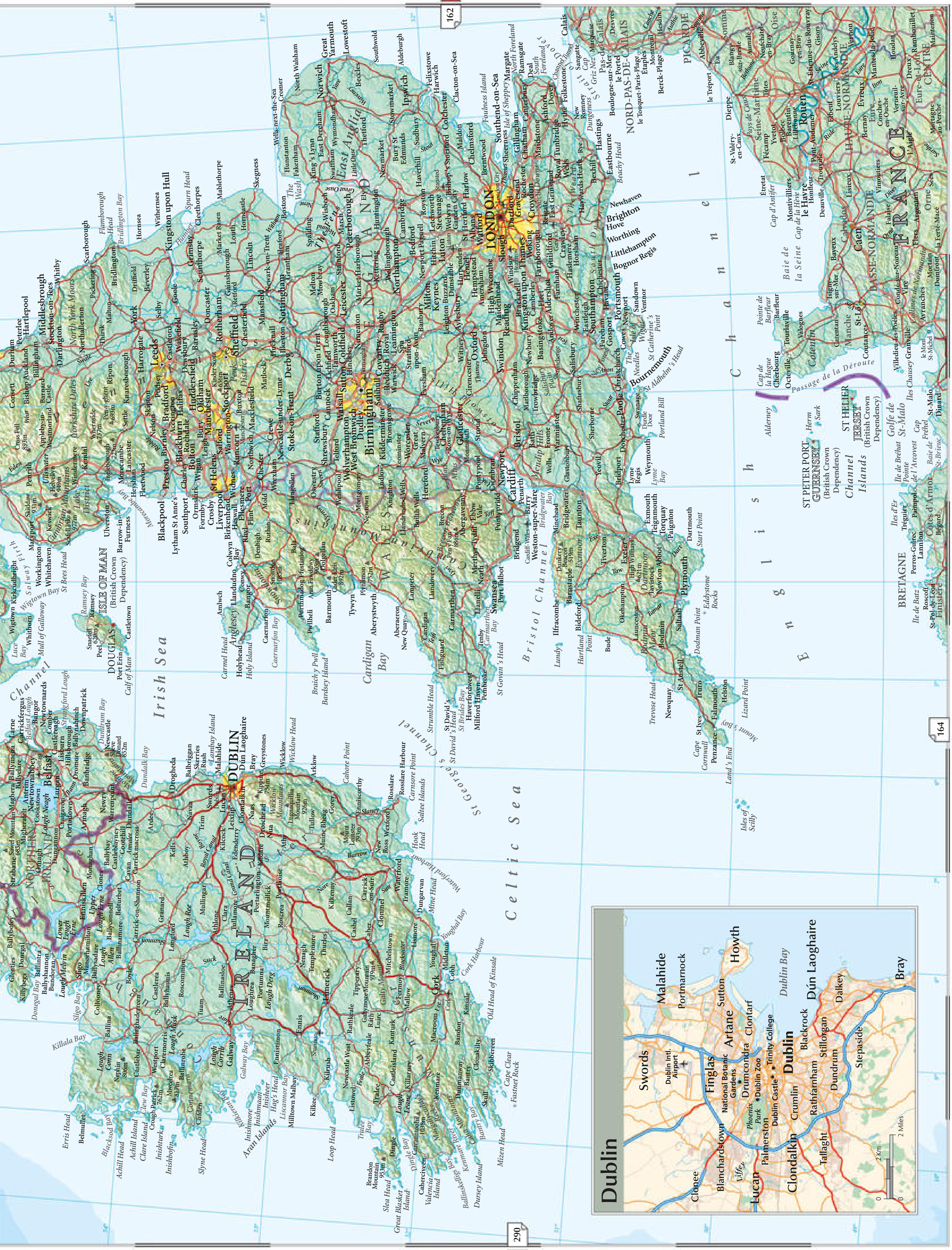


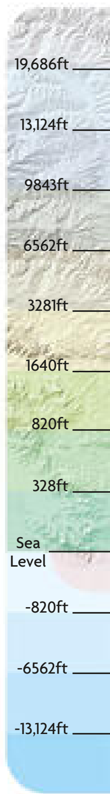
EUROPE

Scale 1:2,750,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

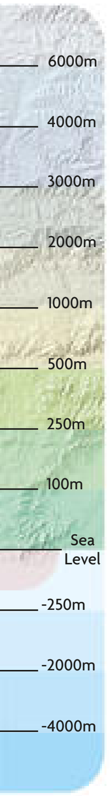
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Northern Britain & Ireland





Scale 1:1,300,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

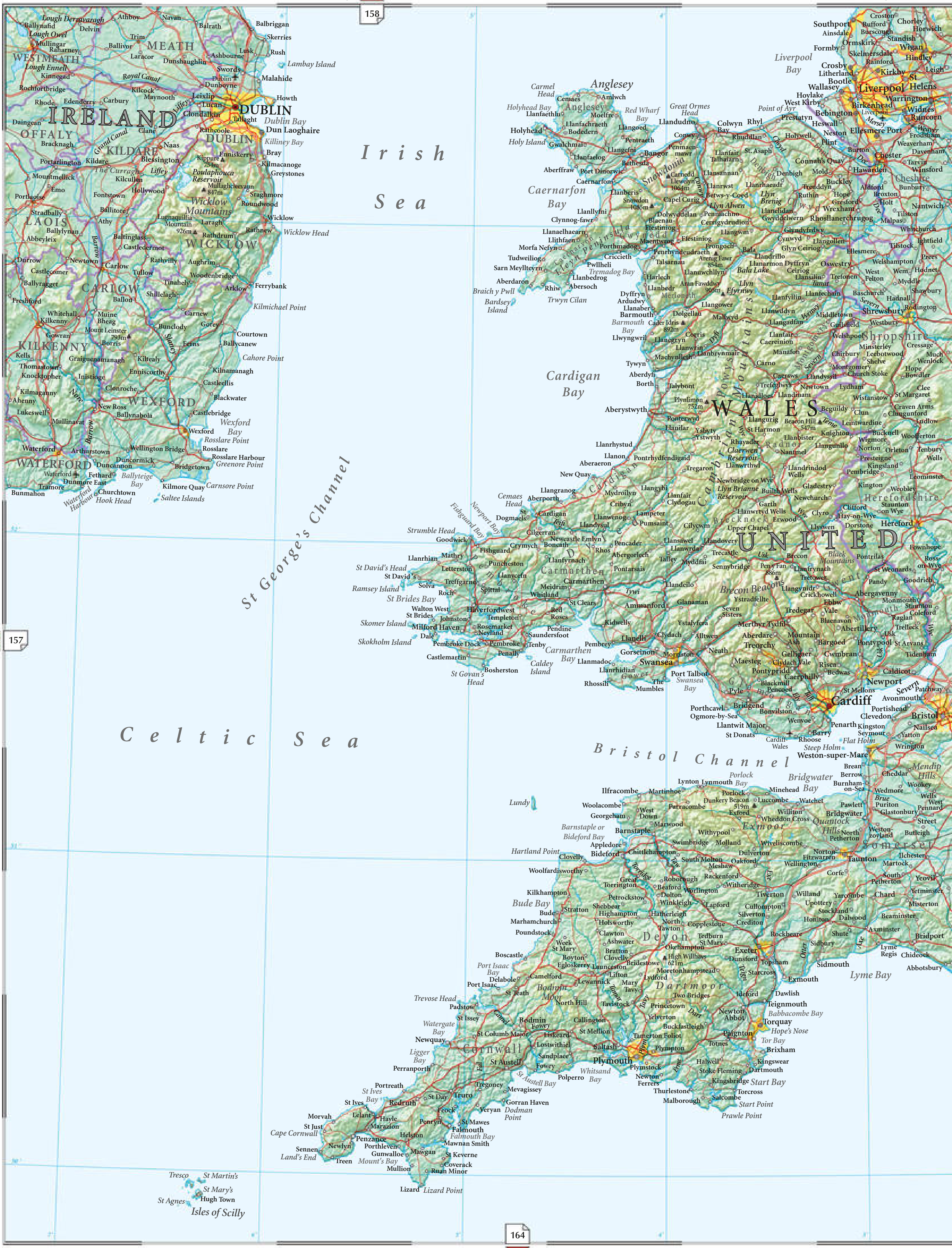
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



EUROPE

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southern Britain





Scale 1:1,300,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

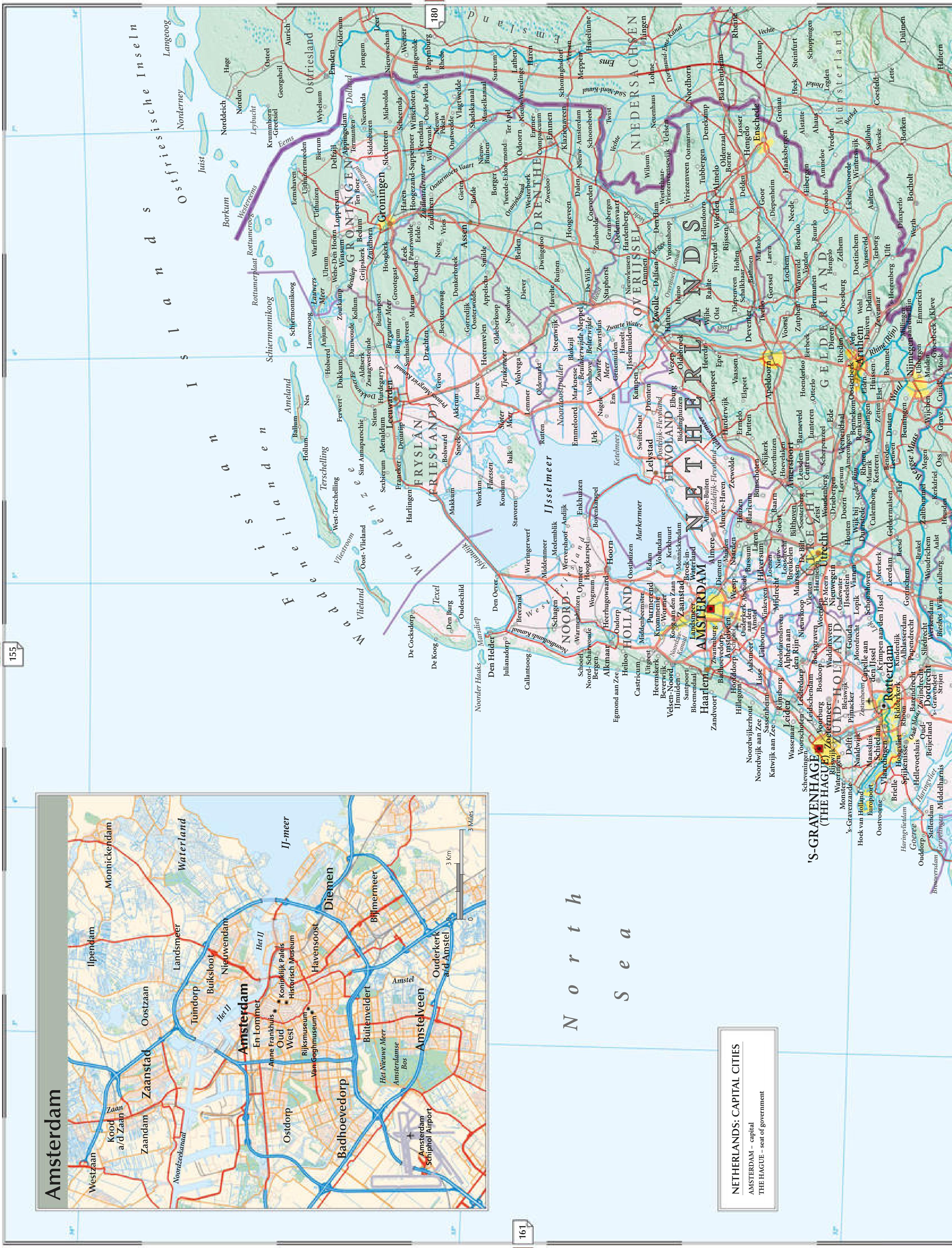
Population

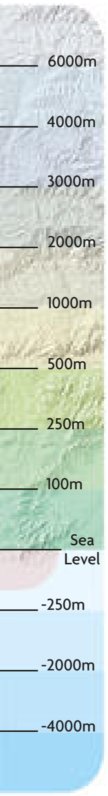
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

The Low Countries





Scale 1:1,125,000

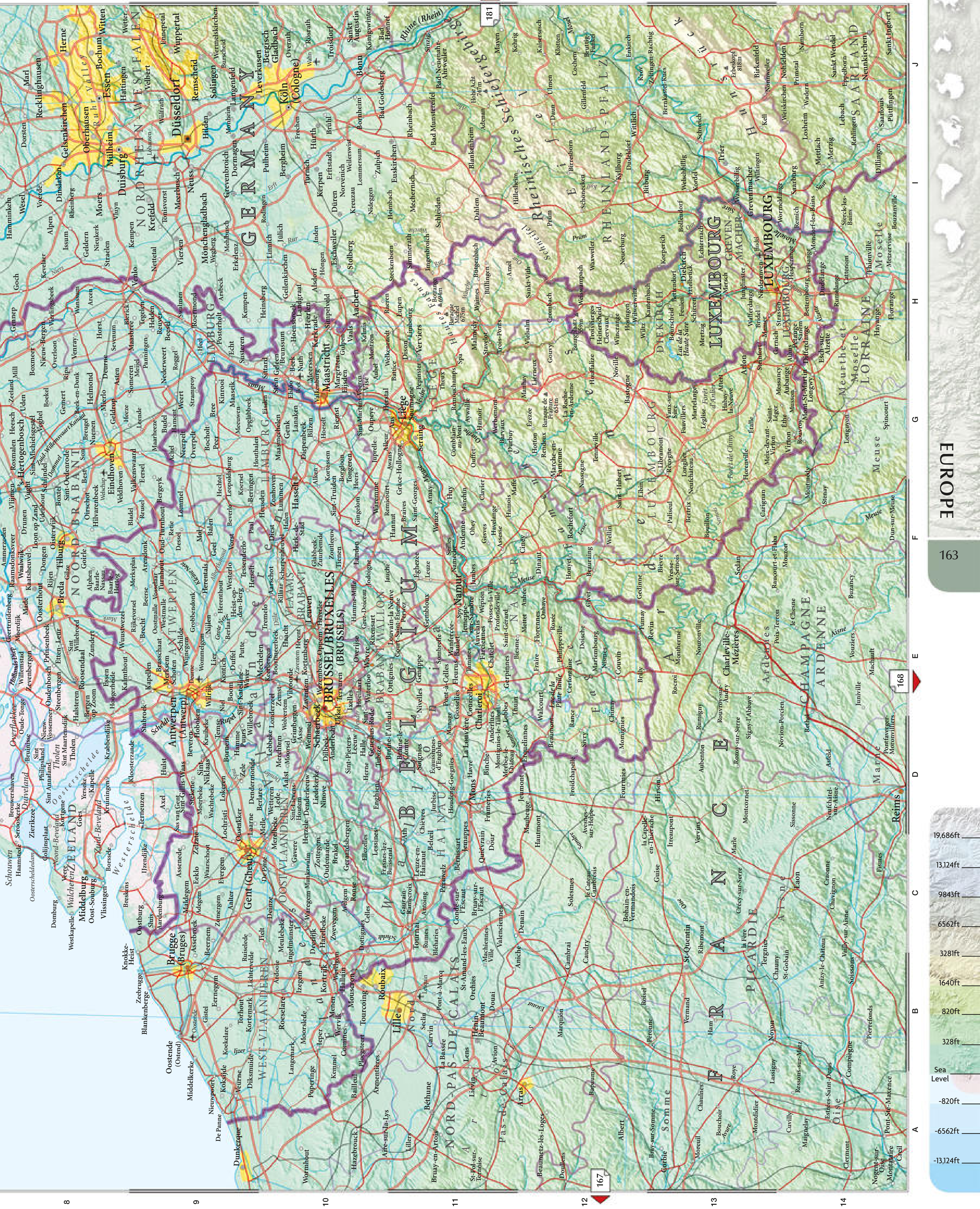
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 Km
0 10 20 30 40 Miles

Population

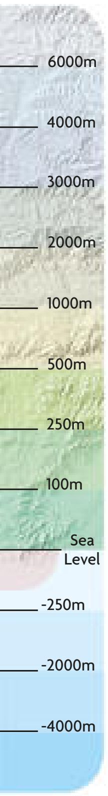
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





France


UNITED KINGDOM
ATLANTIC OCEAN
English Channel
Bay of Biscay
Channel Islands
ST PETER PORT
GUERNSEY
(British Crown Dependency)
ST HELIER
JERSEY
(British Crown Dependency)
BASSE-NORMANDIE
BRETAGNE
PAYS DE LA LOIRE
POITOU-CHARENTES
AQUITAINE
MIDI-
Isle of Wight
Plymouth
Southampton
Brighton
Caen
Cherbourg
Rennes
Brest
Quimper
Lorient
Nantes
St-Nazaire
Angers
Le Mans
Tours
Poitiers
la Rochelle
Niort
Angoulême
Bordeaux
Périgueux
Agen
Pau
Tarbes
Bayonne
Biarritz
Donostia/San Sebastián
Bilbao
Santander
Oviedo
Gijón (Xixón)
A Coruña (La Coruña)
Santiago de Compostela
Lugo
Ourense (Orense)
Vigo
Pontevedra
León
Burgos
Valladolid
Palencia
Zamora
Logroño
Vitoria-Gasteiz
Pamplona (Iruña)
Huesca
Zaragoza
Lleida (Lérida)
Soria
Porto (Oporto)
Braga
Costa Verde
Cordillera Cantábrica
GALICIA
ASTURIAS
CANTABRIA
CASTILLA Y LEÓN
LA RIOJA
NAVARRA
ARAGÓN
PAÍS VASCO
PORTUGAL
SPAIN
Paris
Montmorency
Aéroport Le Bourget
Aéroport Charles de Gaulle
St-Denis
Argenteuil
Enghien
Poissy
St-Germain-en-Laye
Nanterre
Rueil-Malmaison
Boulogne-Billancourt
Versailles
Meudon
Vincennes
Montreuil
Le Raincy
Marne-la-Vallée
Champigny-sur-Marne
Créteil
Vitry-sur-Seine
Sceaux
Antony
Orly
Aéroport d'Orly
Trappes
Chevreuse
Palaiseau
Orsay
Mortgeron
Brie-Comte-Robert
160
170
290


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:3,250,000

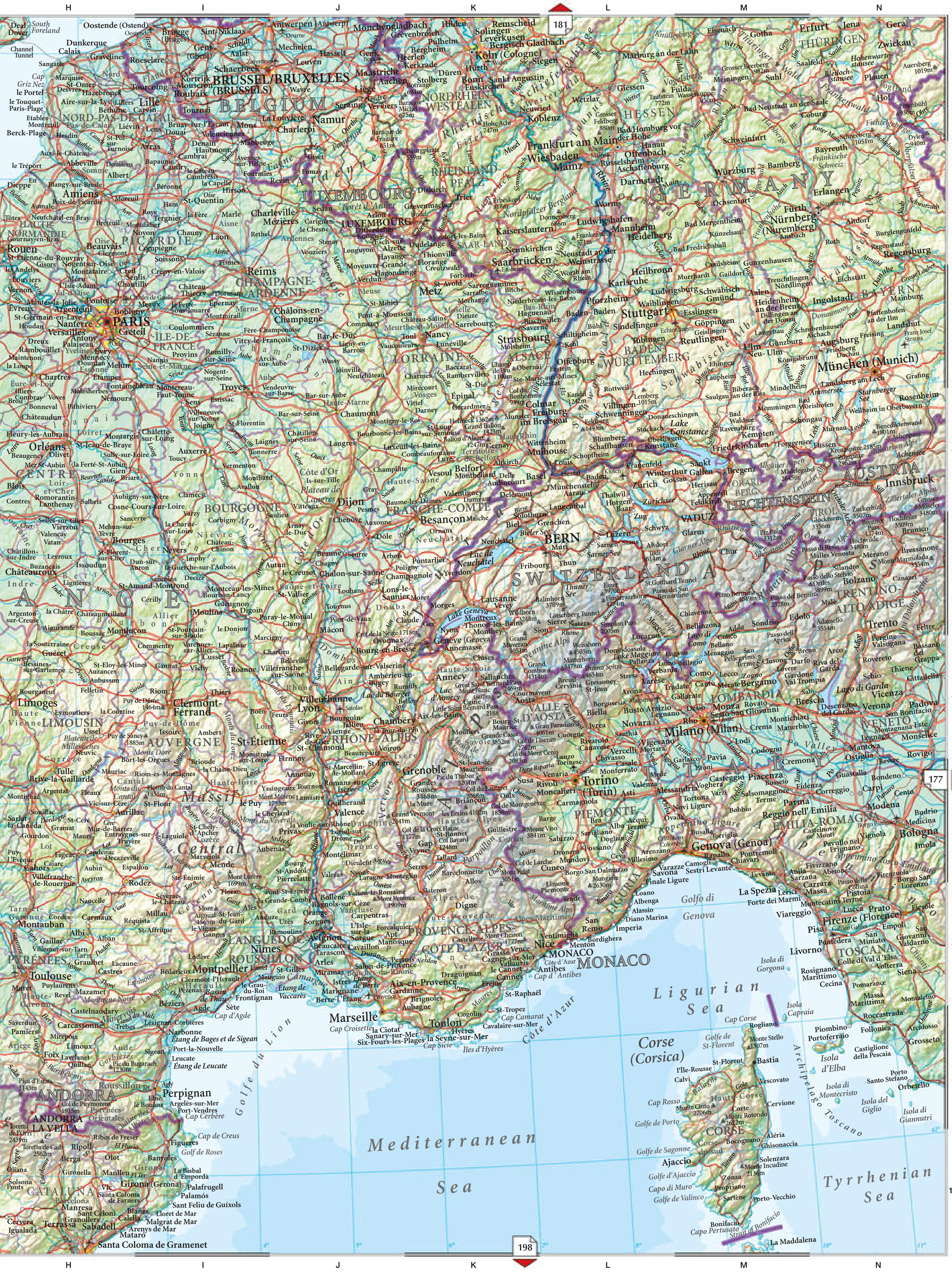
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

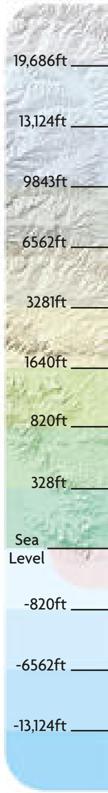
0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- ▣ above 5 million
- ▣ 1 million to 5 million
- ◉ 500,000 to 1 million
- ◎ 100,000 to 500,000
- ⊕ 50,000 to 100,000
- ○ 10,000 to 50,000
- ○ below 10,000

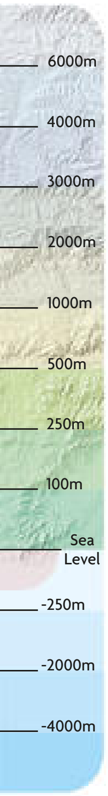




EUROPE

Northern France





EUROPE

Scale 1:1,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

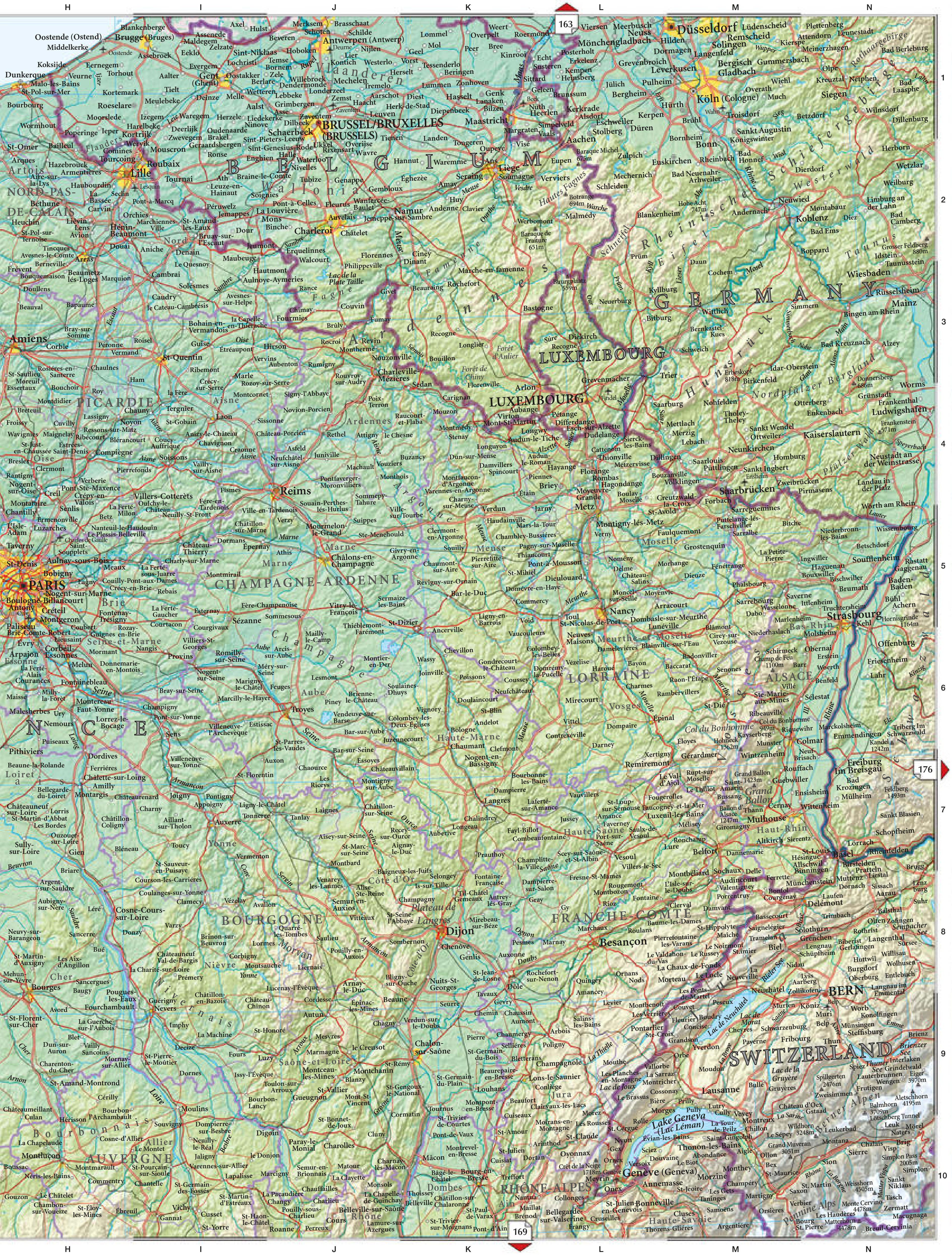
0 10 20 30 40 50 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southern France & the Pyrenees





Scale 1:1,750,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population
- ▣ above 5 million
- ◘ 1 million to 5 million
- ◉ 500,000 to 1 million
- ◎ 100,000 to 500,000
- ⊕ 50,000 to 100,000
- ○ 10,000 to 50,000
- ○ below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

EUROPE

The Iberian Peninsula

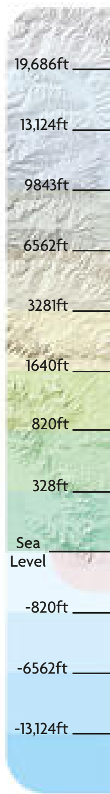


Scale 1:3,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

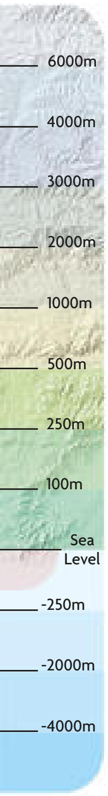
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Southern Iberia





EUROPE

Scale 1:1,900,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

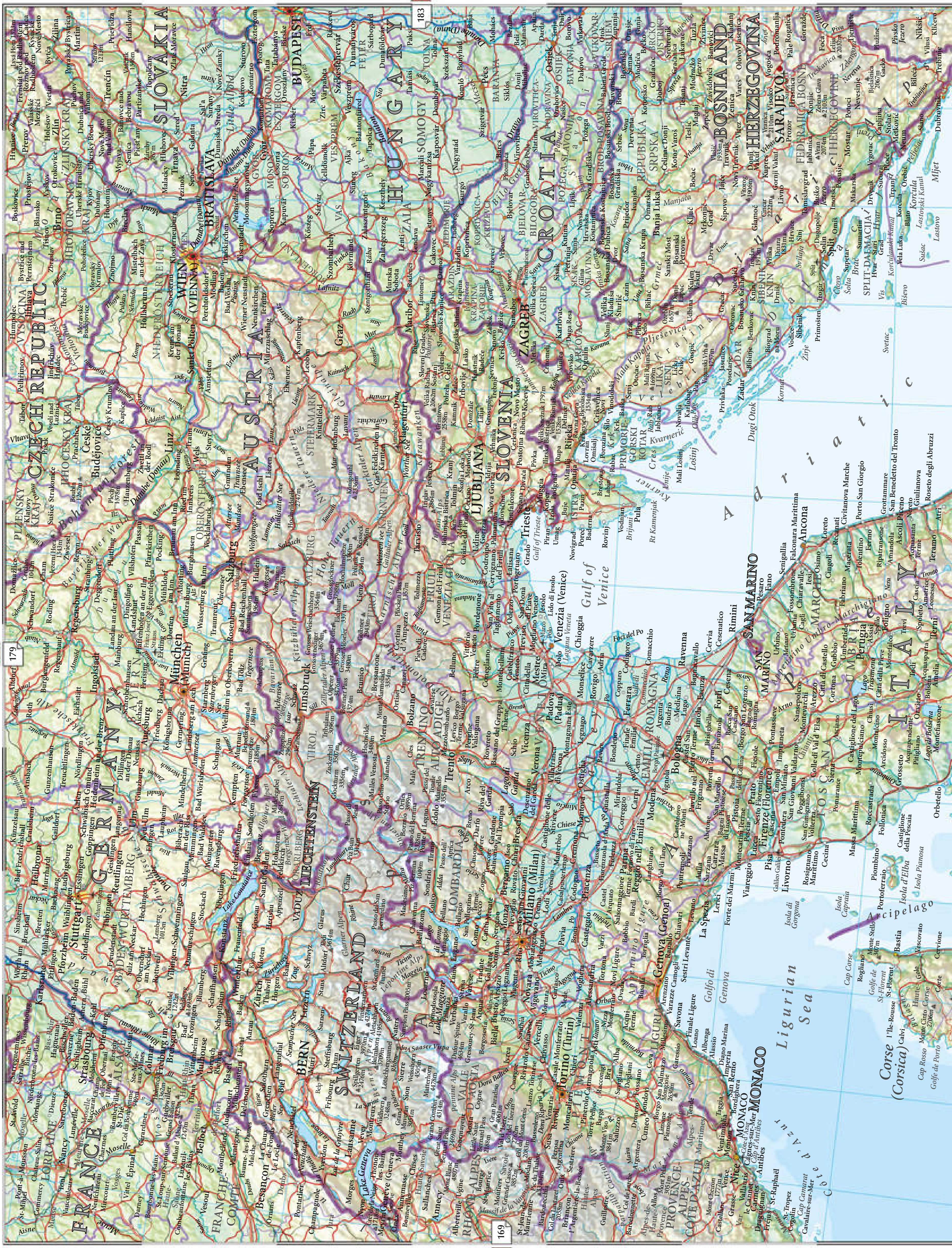
0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



EUROPE

The Italian Peninsula

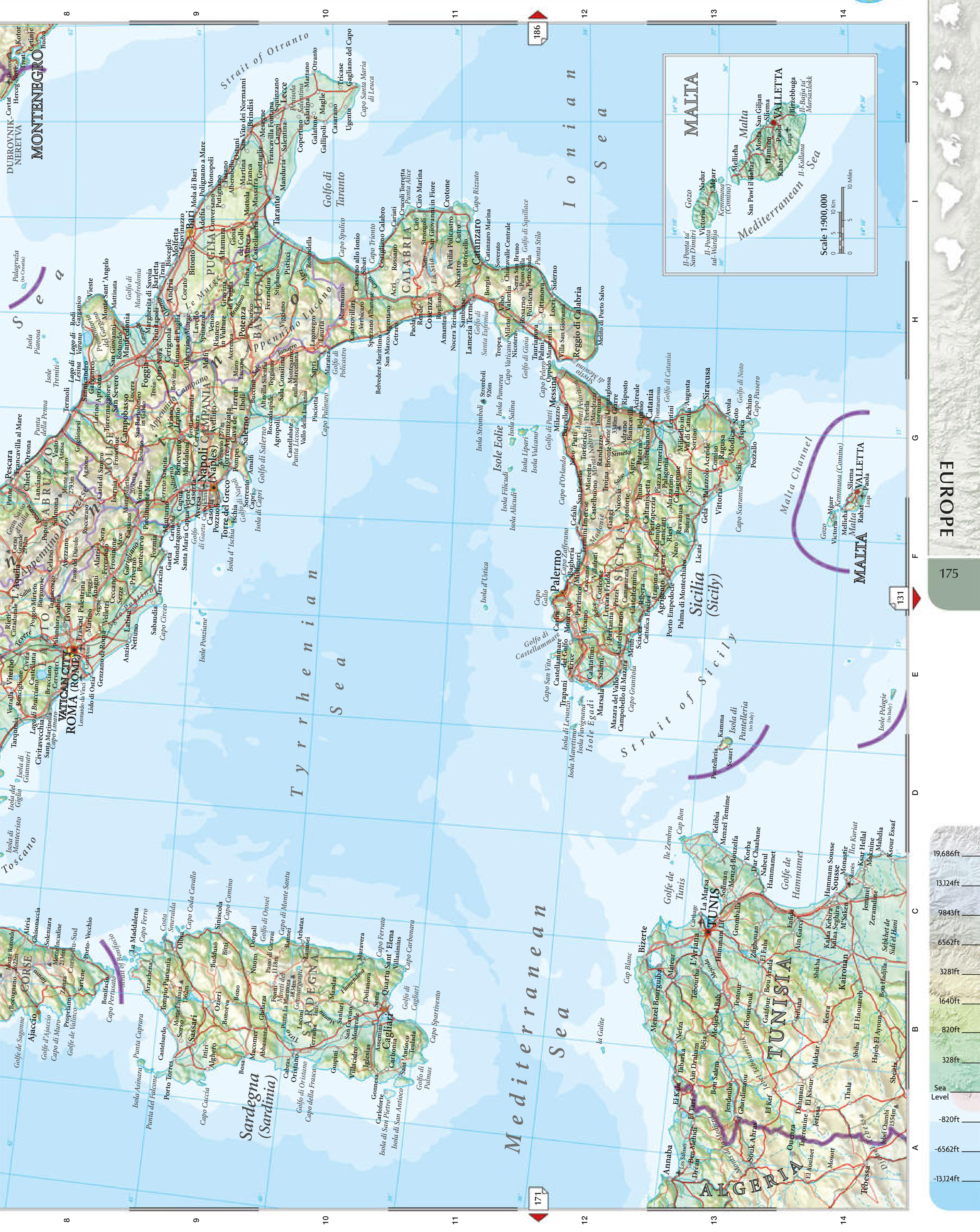


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:3,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



EUROPE

The Alpine States & Northern Italy



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:2,100,000

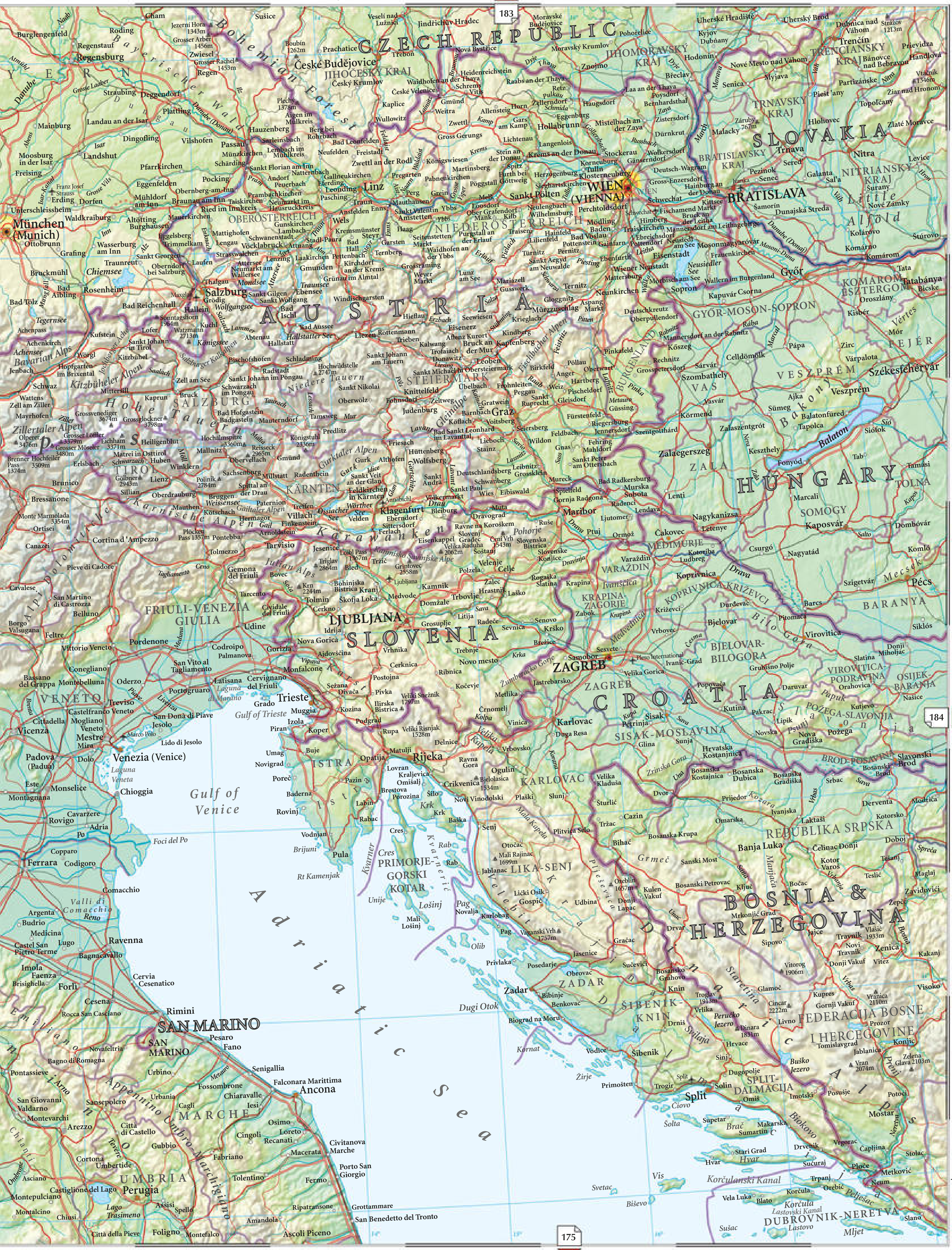
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

Population

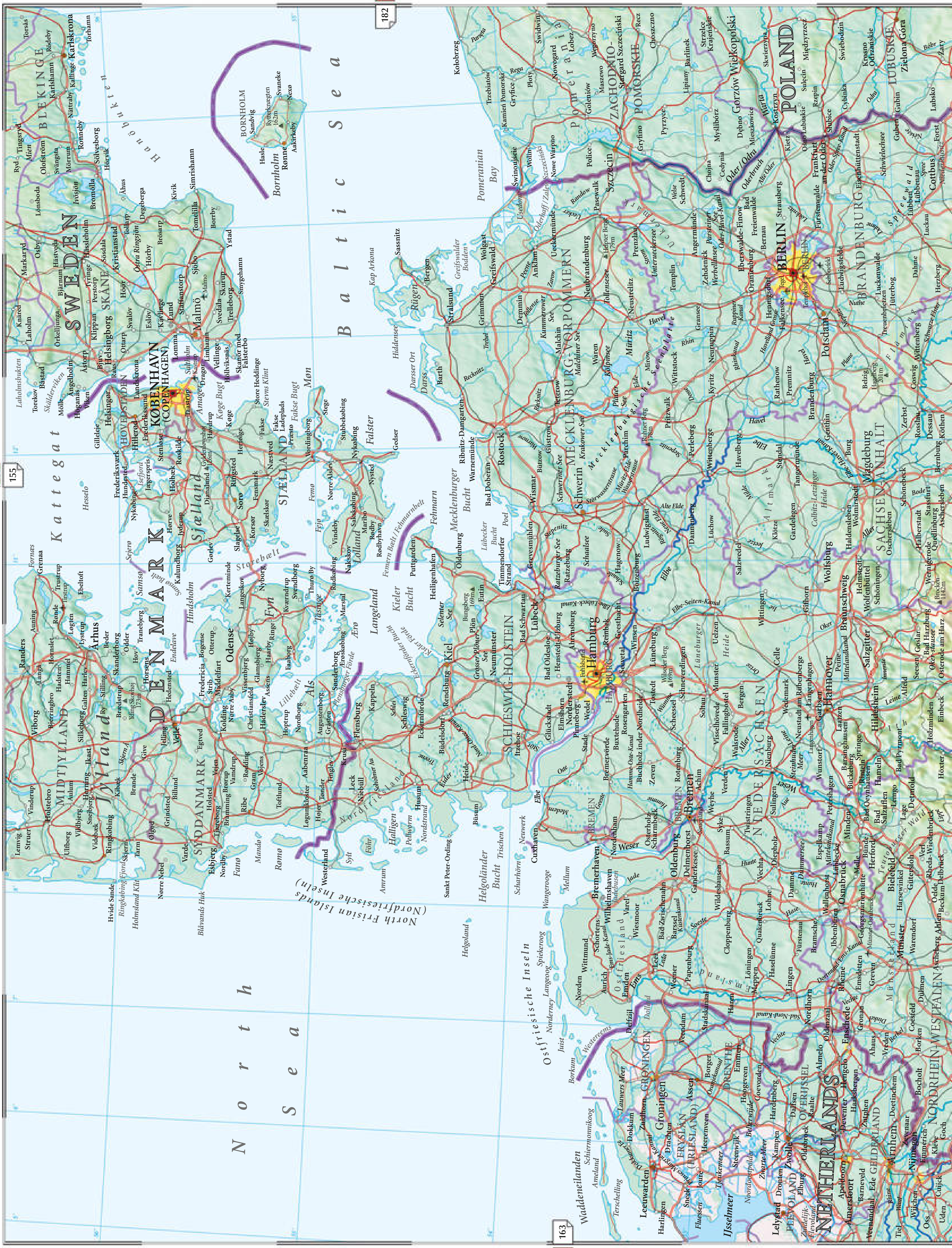
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

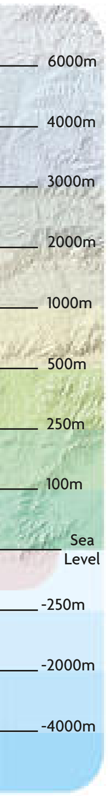






Germany


North Sea
Baltic Sea
Kattegat
SWEDEN
DENMARK
POLAND
NETHERLANDS
BERLIN
Hamburg
Bremen
Hannover
KØBENHAVN (COPENHAGEN)
Malmö
Bornholm
SKÅNE
BLEKINGE
Sjælland
Jylland
Fyn
Langeland
Lolland
Falster
Rügen
Pomeranian Bay
Mecklenburger Bucht
Kieler Bucht
Helgoländer Bucht
SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN
MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN
BRANDENBURG
SACHSEN-ANHALT
NIEDERSACHSEN
NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN
NORDJYLLAND
MIDTJYLLAND
SYDDANMARK
SJÆLLAND
HOVEDSTADEN
ZACHODNIO-POMORSKIE
LUBUSKIE
GRONINGEN
FRYSLAN (FRIESLAND)
DRENTHE
OVERIJSSEL
GELDERLAND
FLEVOLAND
North Frisian Islands (Nordfriesische Inseln)
Ostfriesische Inseln
Waddeneilanden
IJsselmeer
Szczecin
Lübeck
Kiel
Rostock
Schwerin
Magdeburg
Braunschweig
Potsdam
Oldenburg
Bremerhaven
Osnabrück
Groningen
Arnhem
Odense
Århus
182
155
163


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:2,250,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

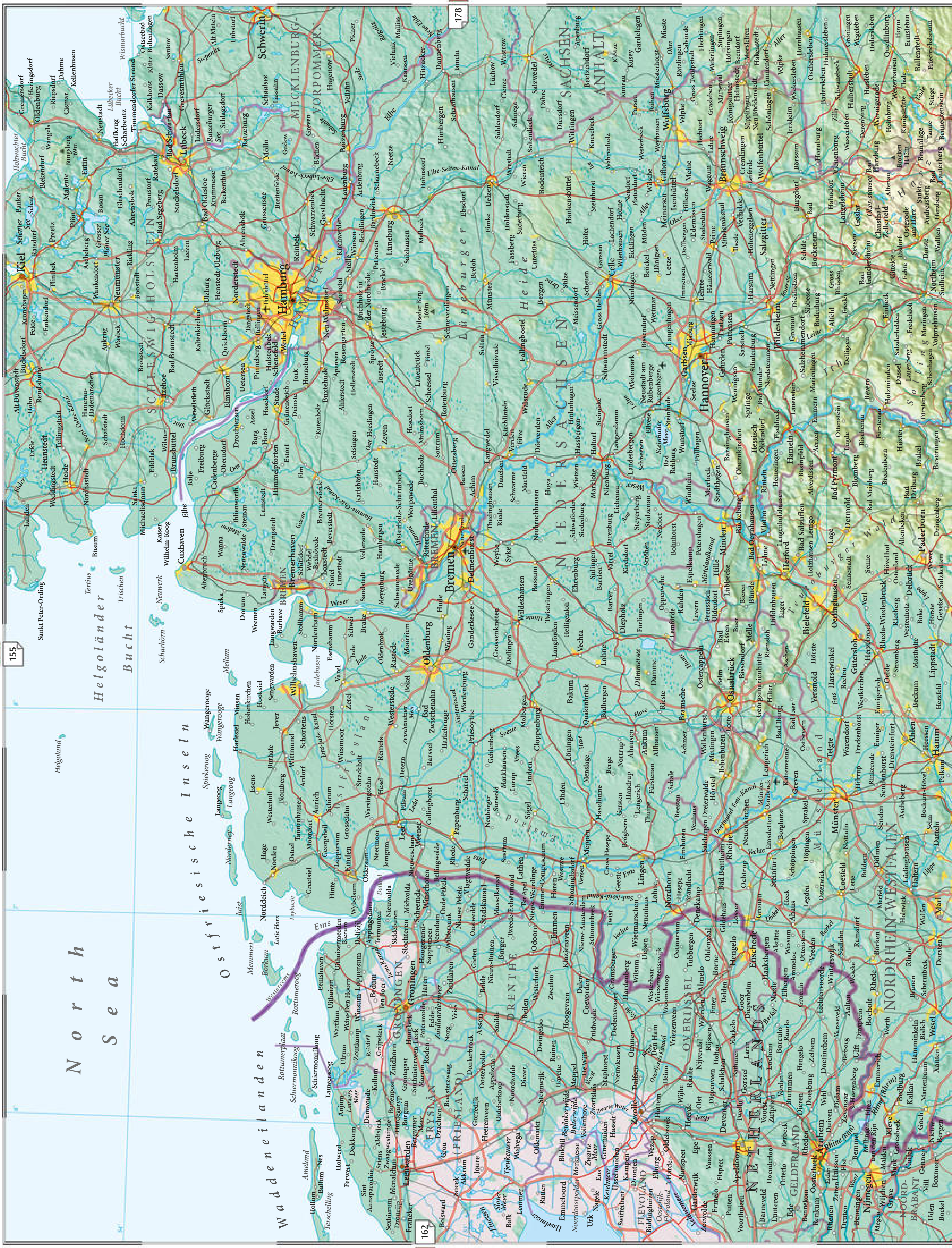
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Rhineland & Hamburg



178
155
162

6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:1,200,000

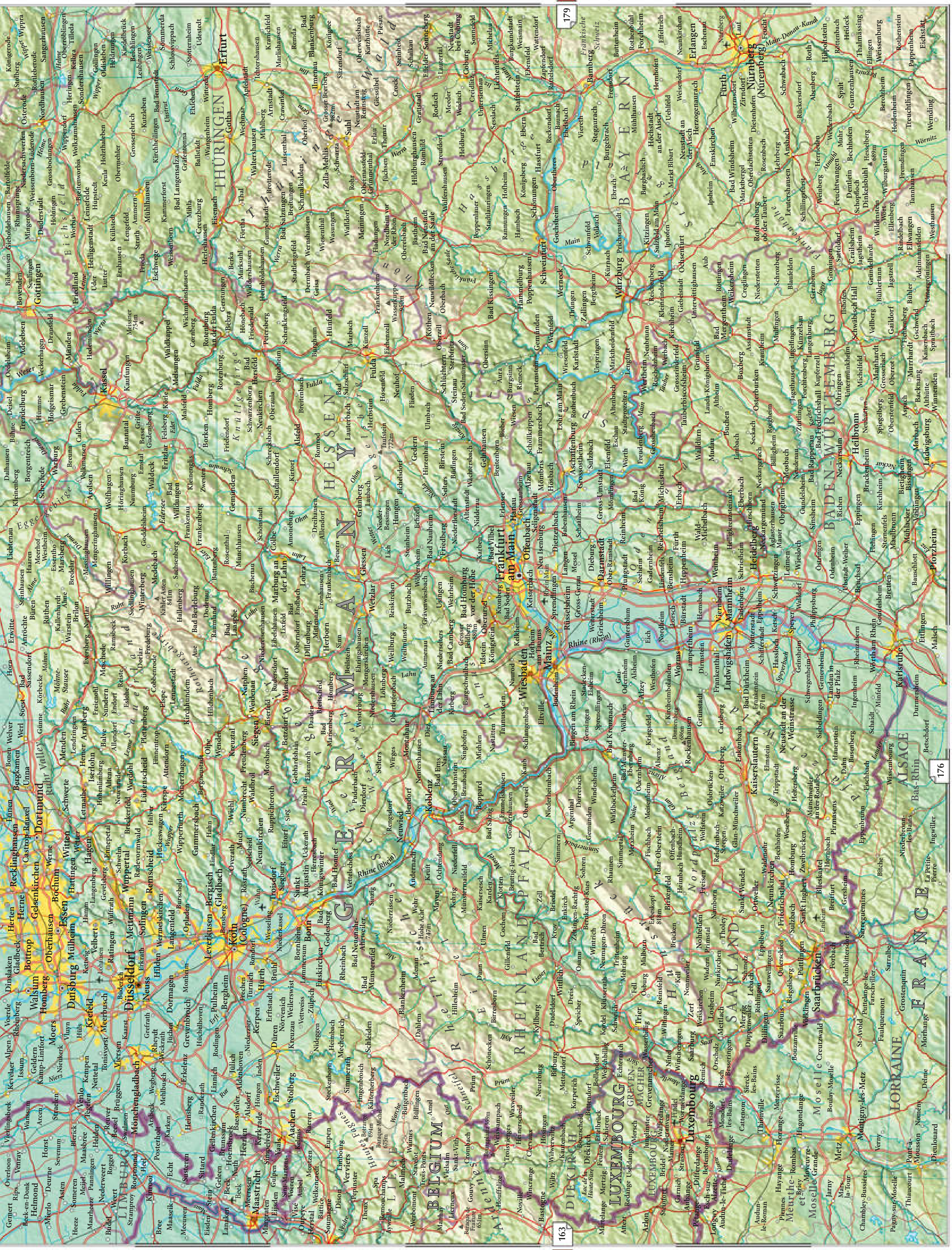
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

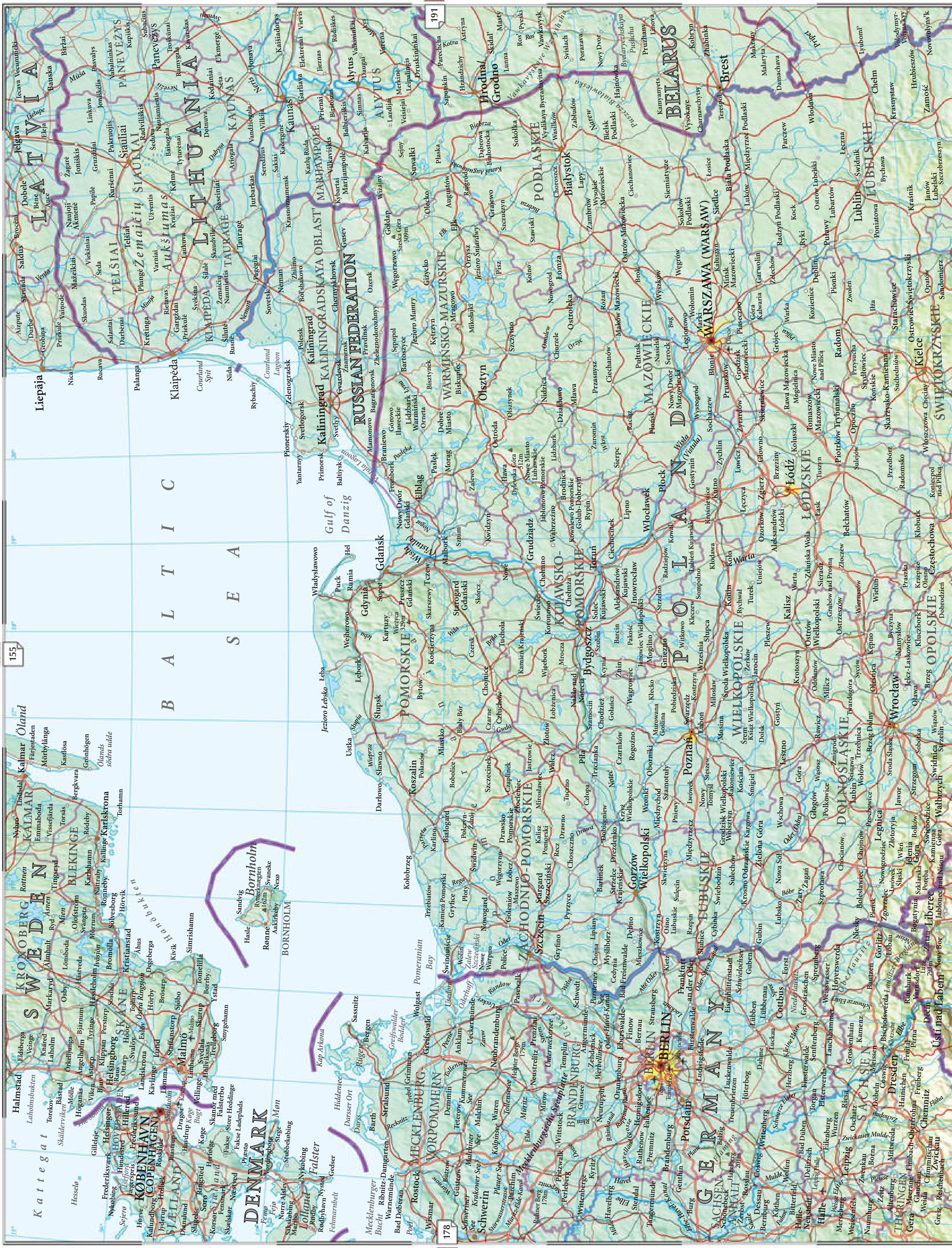
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Central Europe



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:2,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

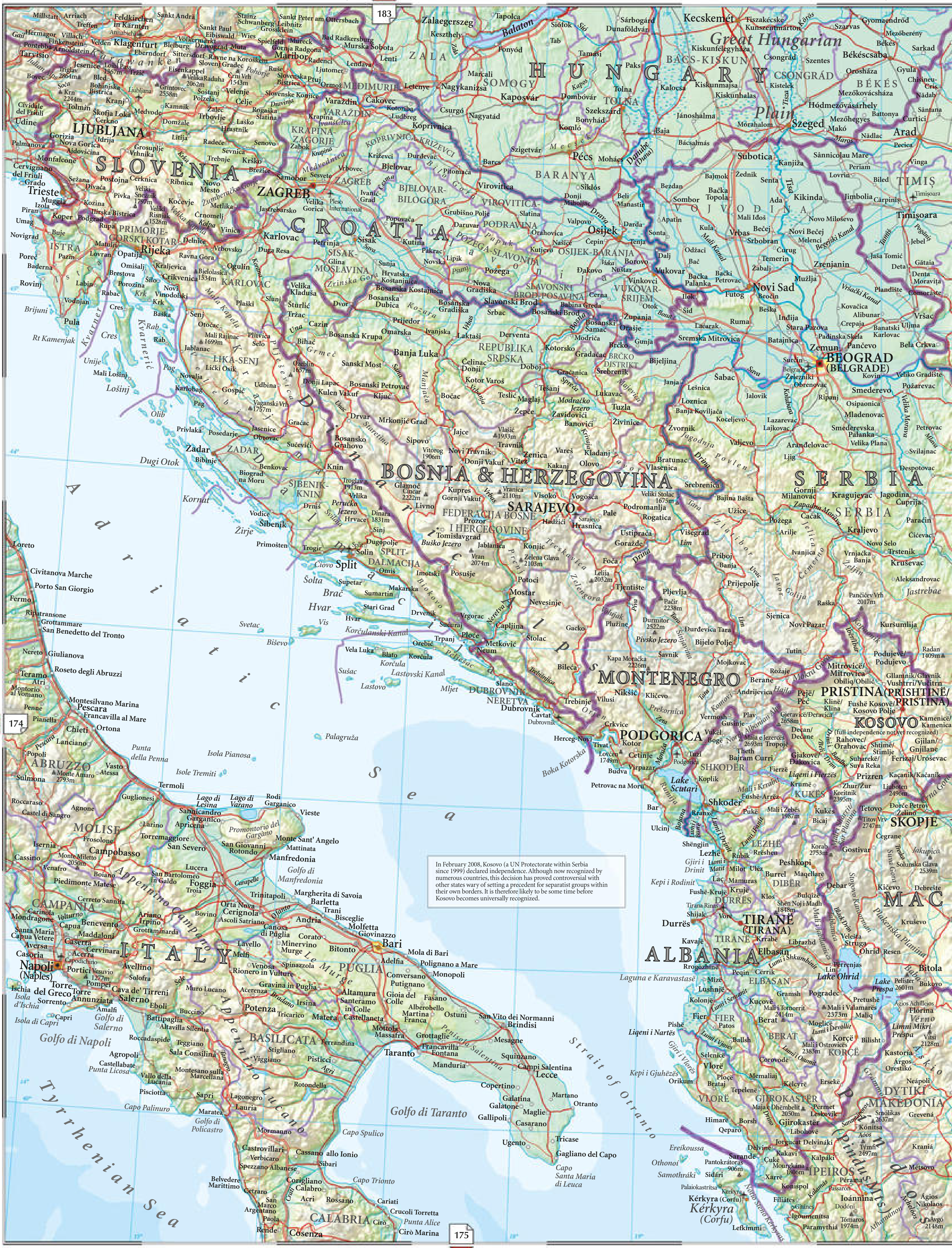
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southeast Europe



183
174
175

6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:2,500,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population

- ▣ above 5 million
- ◙ 1 million to 5 million
- ◉ 500,000 to 1 million
- ◎ 100,000 to 500,000
- ⊕ 50,000 to 100,000
- ○ 10,000 to 50,000
- ○ below 10,000

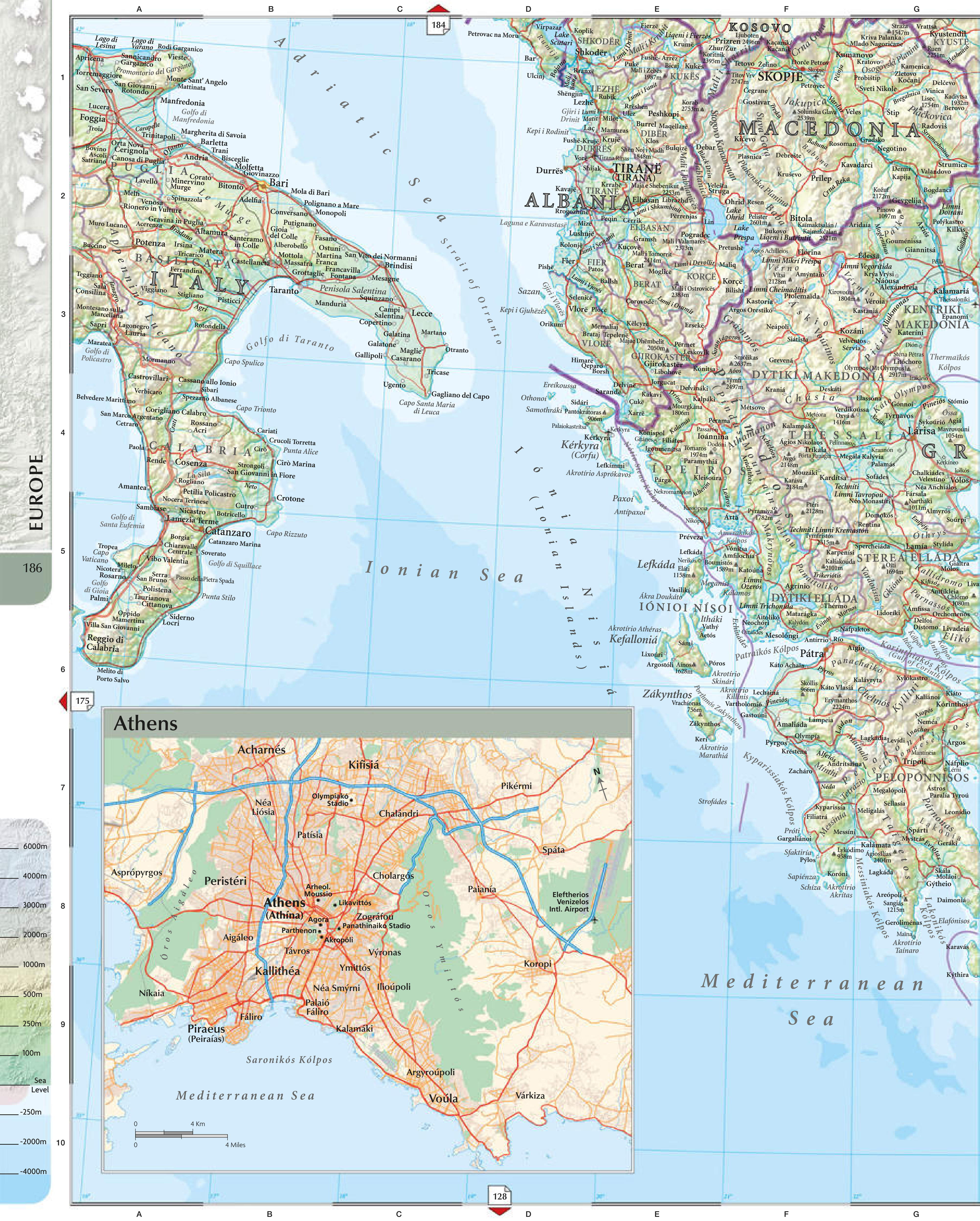






EUROPE

Greece


A
B
C
D
E
F
G
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
184
175
128
Adriatic Sea
Strait of Otranto
Ionian Sea
Iónia Nisiá (Ionian Islands)
Mediterranean Sea
Golfo di Taranto
Golfo di Manfredonia
Golfo di Squillace
Golfo di Santa Eufemia
Golfo di Policastro
ITALY
ALBANIA
MACEDONIA
KOSOVO
PUGLIA
BASILICATA
CALABRIA
Appennino Lucano
Le Murge
Penisola Salentina
Bari
Brindisi
Taranto
Lecce
Otranto
Foggia
Potenza
Matera
Cosenza
Catanzaro
Crotone
Reggio di Calabria
TIRANË (TIRANA)
Durrës
Shkodër
Vlorë
Elbasan
Korçë
Berat
Gjirokastër
Sarandë
SKOPJE
Tetovo
Bitola
Ohrid
Prilep
Strumica
Kumanovo
Lake Ohrid
Lake Prespa
Kérkyra (Corfu)
Paxoí
Lefkáda
Kefalloniá
Itháki
Zákynthos
IÓNIOI NÍSOI
IPEIROS
Ioánnina
Árta
Préveza
Pindus Mountains
KENTRIKÍ MAKEDONÍA
DYTIKÍ MAKEDONÍA
Kastoriá
Kozáni
Véroia
Thessaloníki
Thermaïkós Kólpos
Ólympos (Mt Olympus) 2917m
THESSALÍA
Lárisa
Tríkala
Kardítsa
Vólos
STEREA ELLÁDA
Lamía
DYTIKÍ ELLÁDA
Mesolóngi
Agrínio
Pátra
Patraïkós Kólpos
Korinthiakós Kólpos (Gulf of Corinth)
Kórinthos
Árgos
Náfplio
Trípoli
PELOPÓNNISOS
Pýrgos
Kalamáta
Spárti
Kyparissiakós Kólpos
Messiniakós Kólpos
Lakonikós Kólpos
Kýthira
Athens
Acharnés
Kifisiá
Néa Liósia
Olympiakó Stadio
Chalándri
Pikérmi
Patísia
Spáta
Asprópyrgos
Peristéri
Cholargós
Arheol. Moussio
Athens (Athína)
Likavittós
Agora
Zográfou
Panathinaikó Stadio
Parthenon
Akrópoli
Paianía
Eleftherios Venizelos Intl. Airport
Aigáleo
Távros
Výronas
Kallithéa
Ymittós
Koropí
Níkaia
Néa Smýrni
Ilioúpoli
Palaió Fáliro
Fáliro
Piraeus (Peiraías)
Kalamáki
Oros Aigáleo
Oros Ymittós
Saronikós Kólpos
Mediterranean Sea
Argyroúpoli
Vária
Voúla
Várkiza
N
0
4 Km
0
4 Miles
6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:2,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

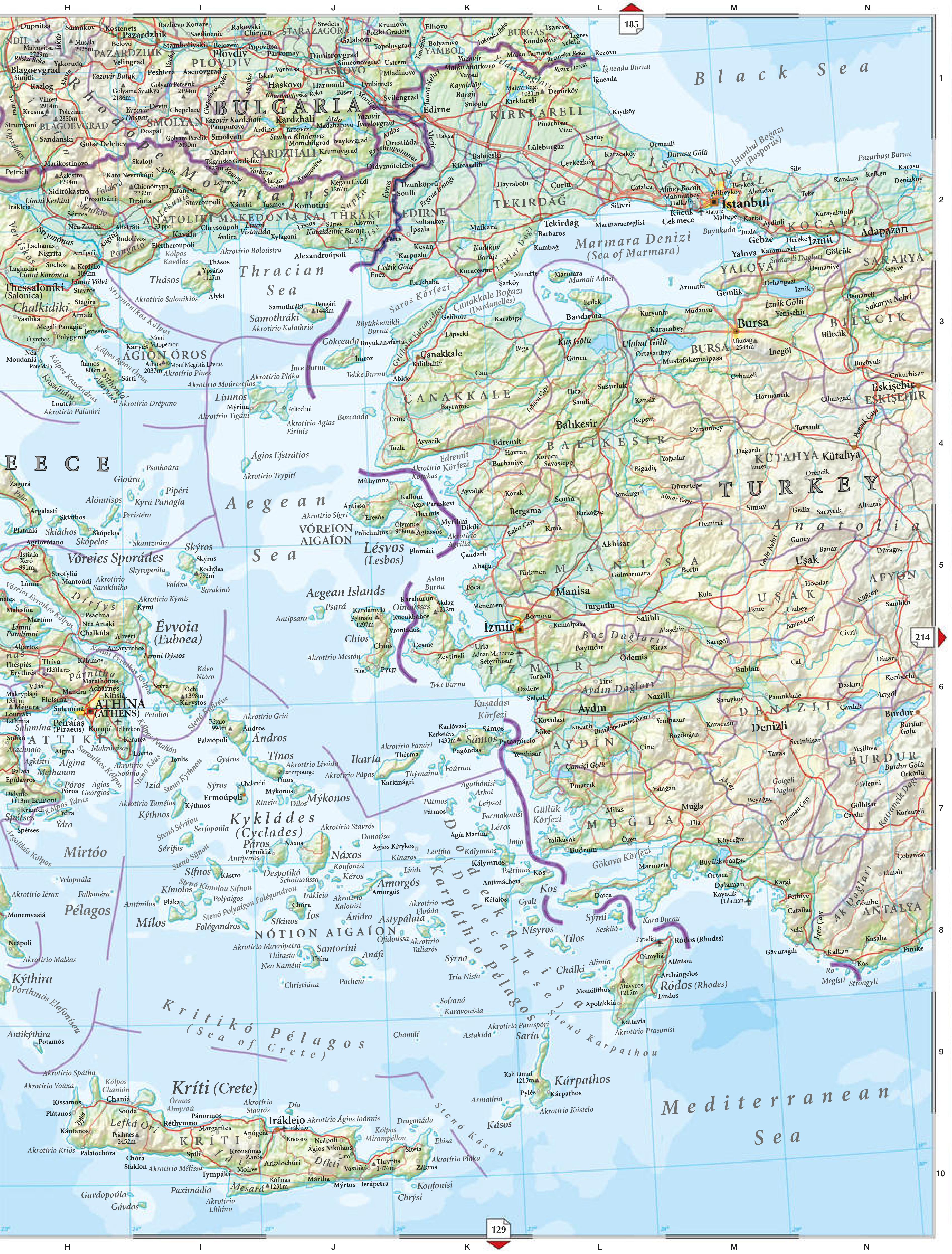
0 10 20 30 40 50 Km

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000







Romania, Moldova & Ukraine



191
183
185

Scale 1:3,000,000

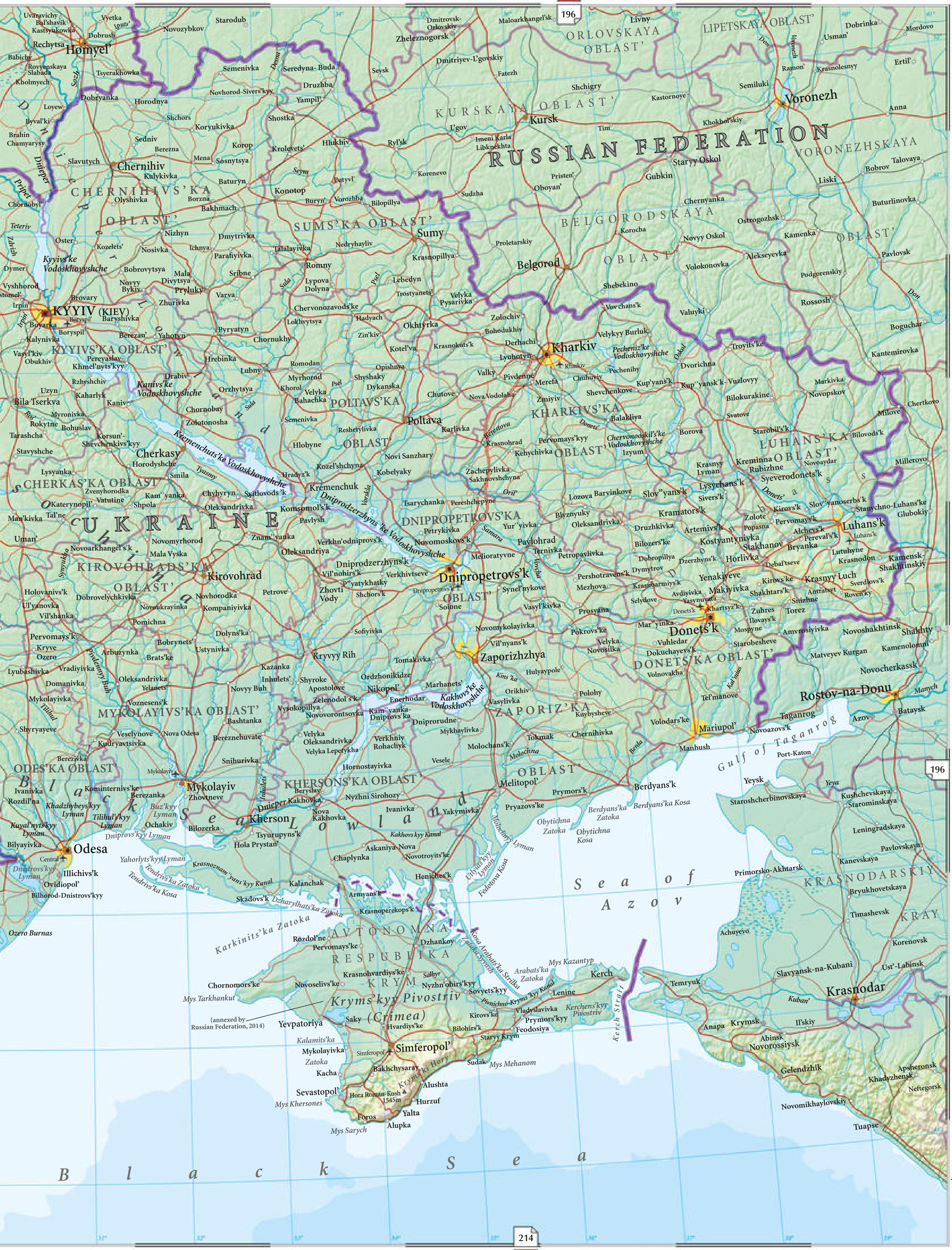
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

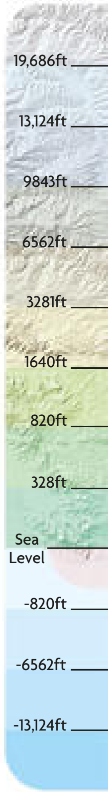
0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

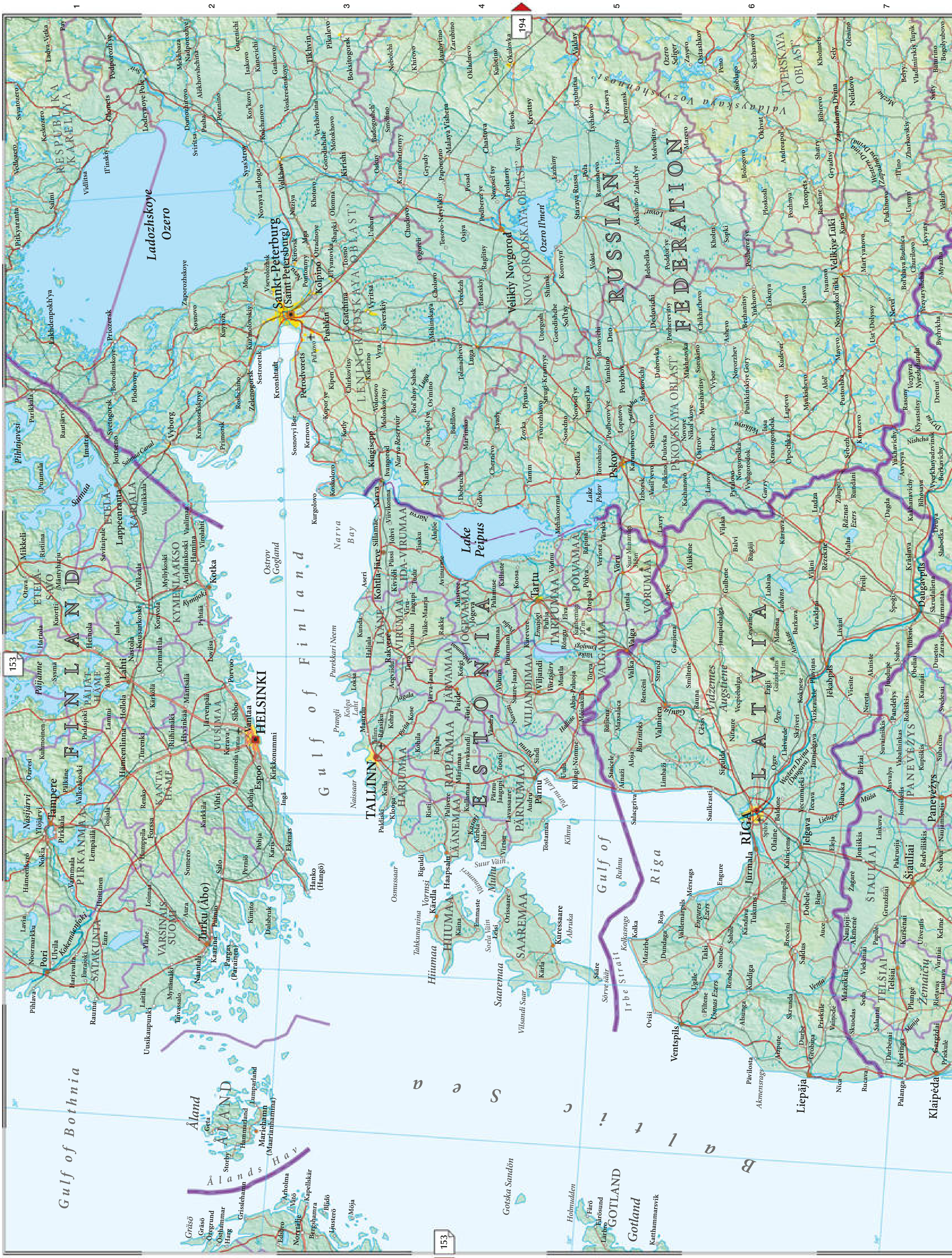
Population

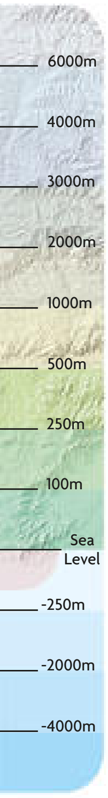
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





The Baltic States & Belarus





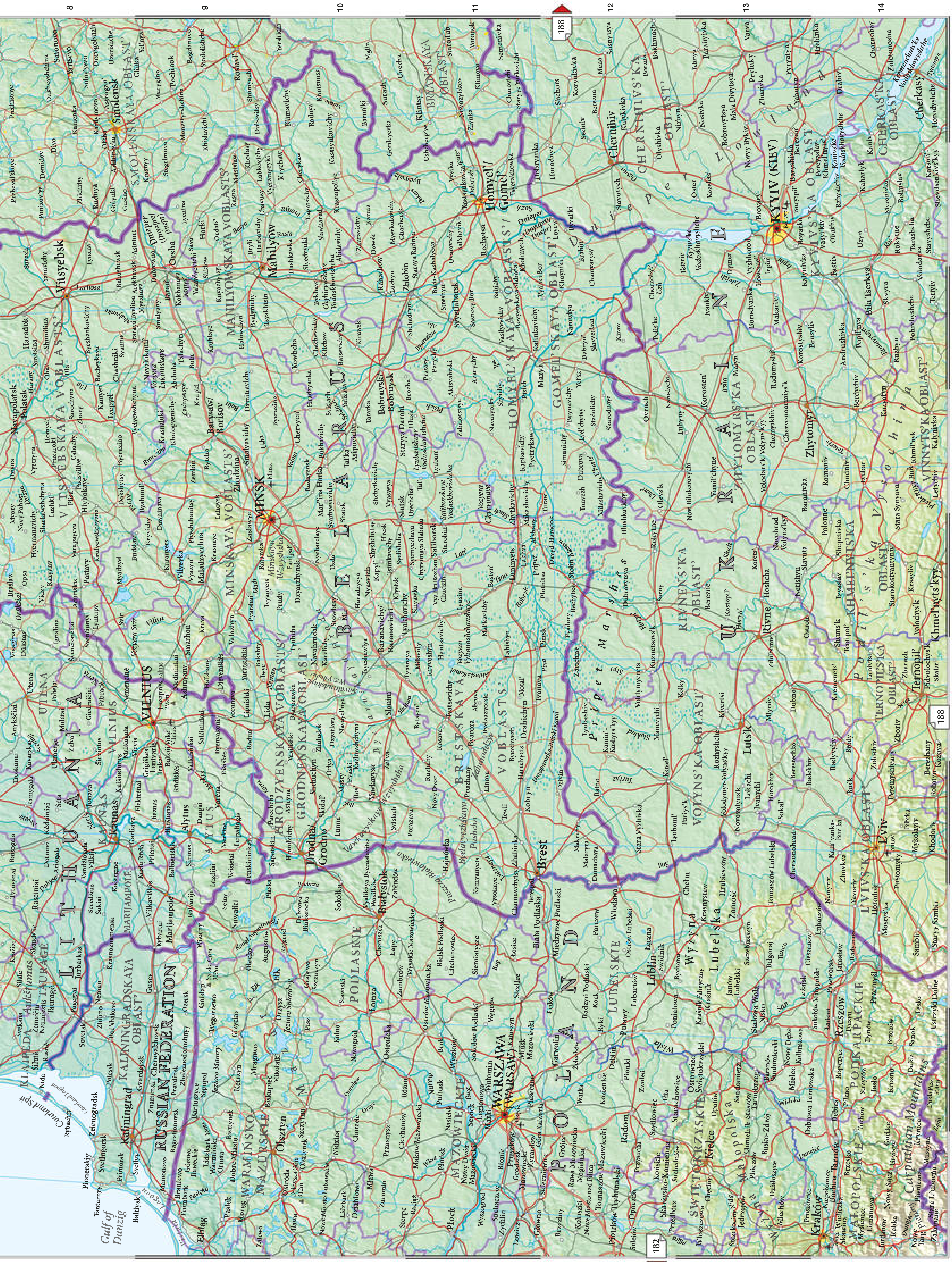
Scale 1:2,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

The Russian Federation



THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION: ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS

The administrative area names in European Russia have been omitted west of the Ural Mountains. Please refer to pages 194-195 and 196-197 where these areas are shown at a larger scale.

6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:17,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 100 200 300 400 500 Km
0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



294
286
248

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Northern European Russia



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:5,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

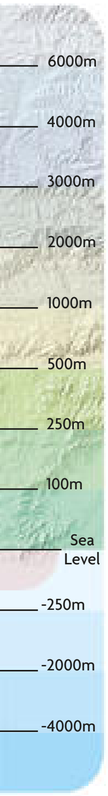
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southern European Russia





Scale 1:5,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

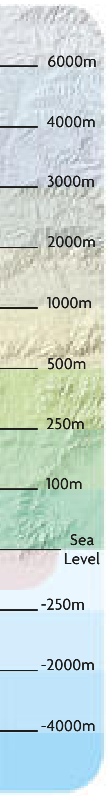


Sea Level

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

The Mediterranean





Scale 1:8,750,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

EUROPE

EUROPE – Cities

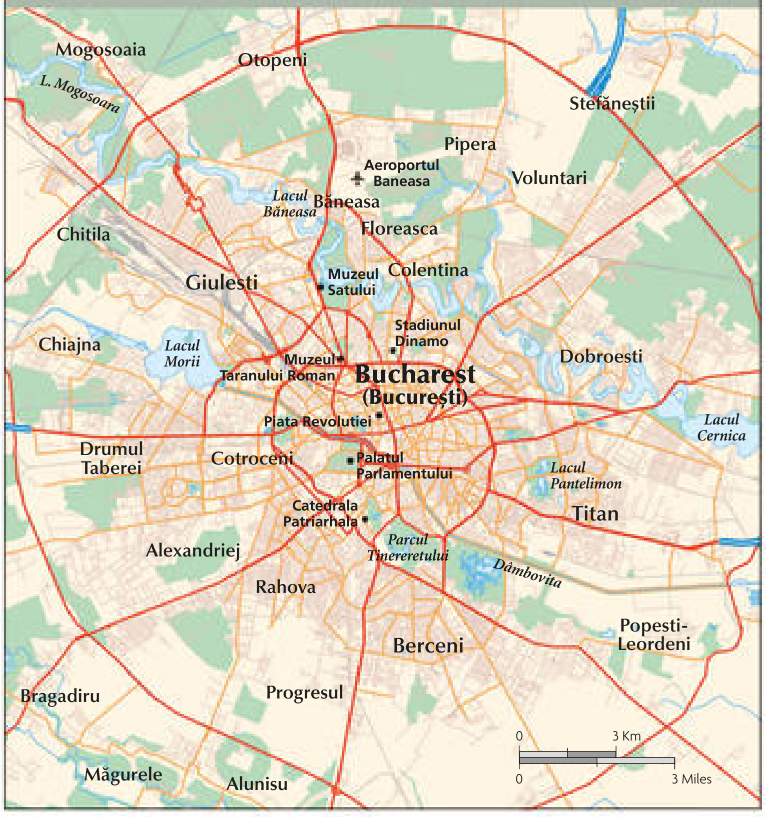
Barcelona



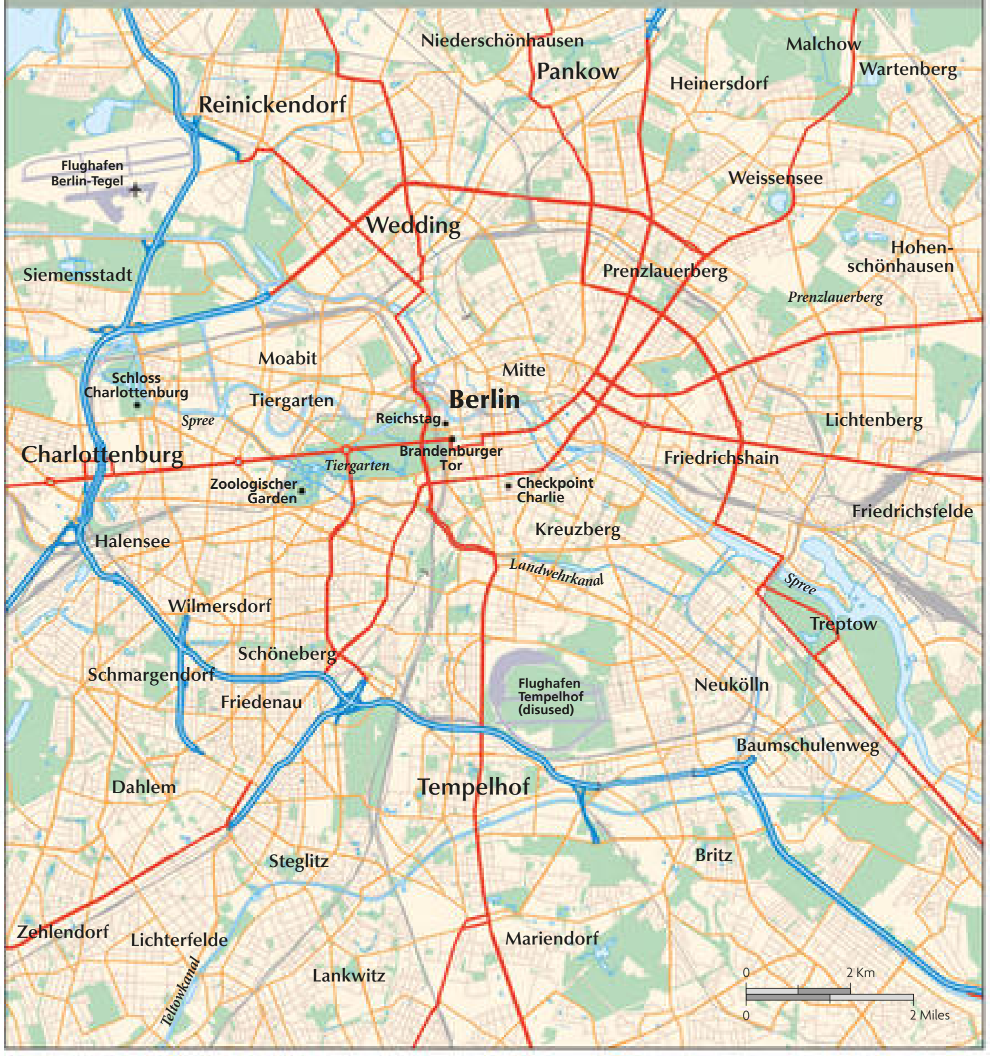
Belgrade



Bucharest



Berlin



Budapest

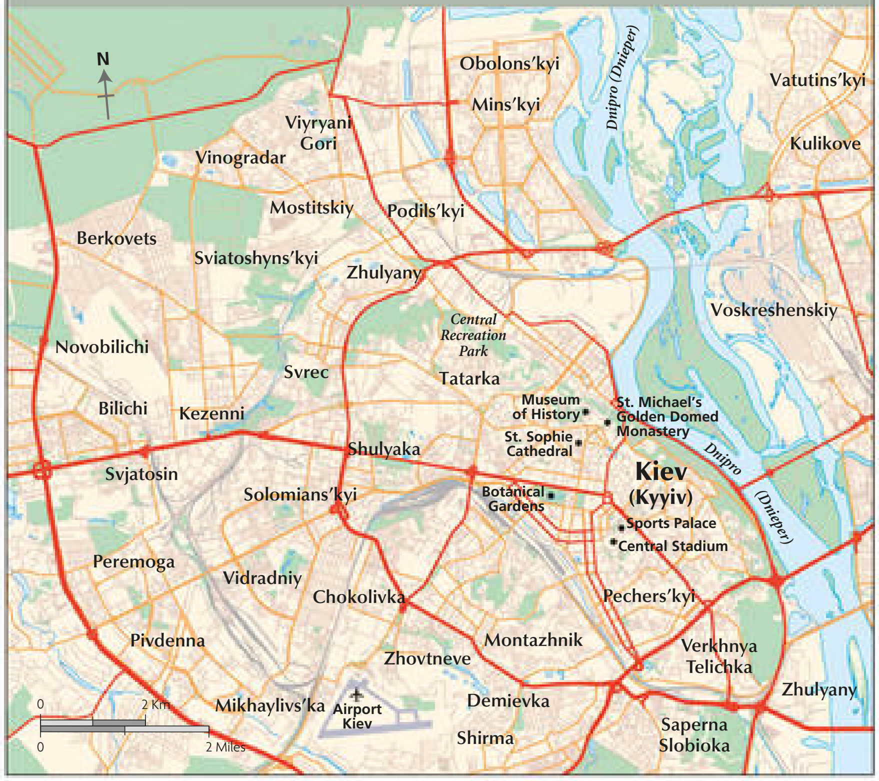


H I J K L M N

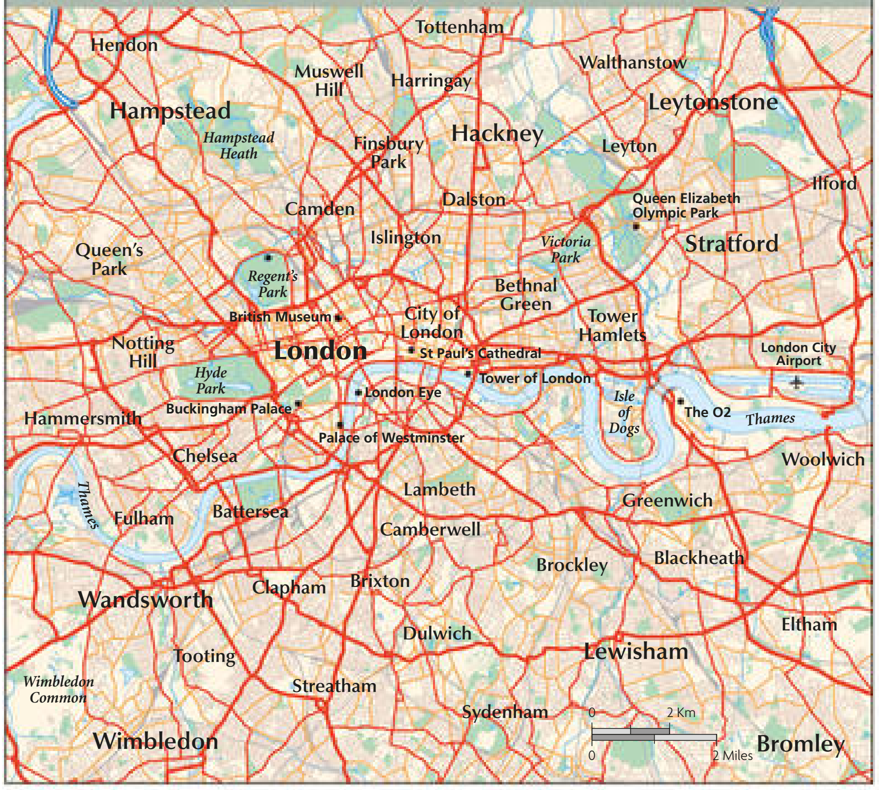
Copenhagen



Kiev



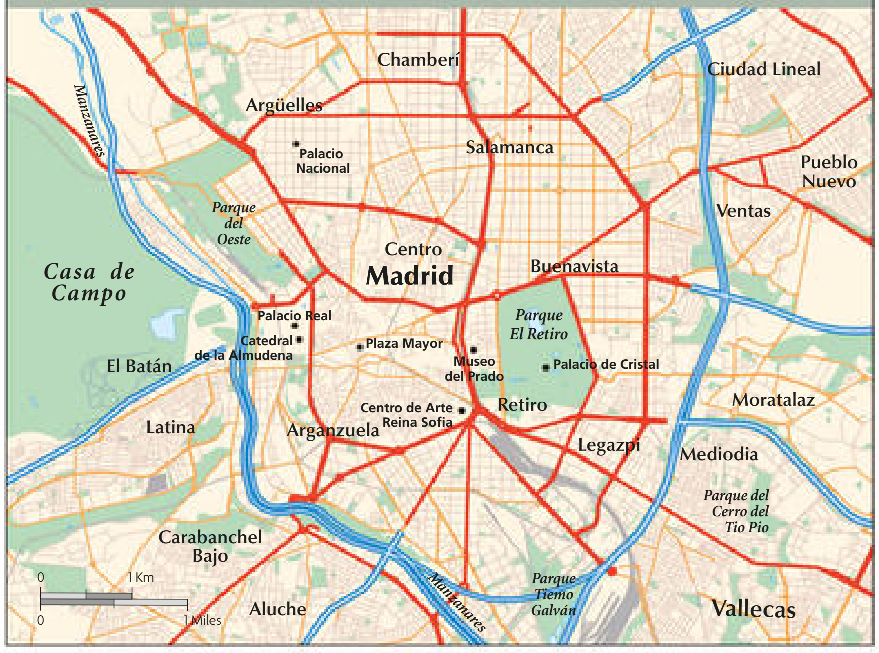
London



Lisbon



Madrid



Minsk



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

H I J K L M N

Moscow



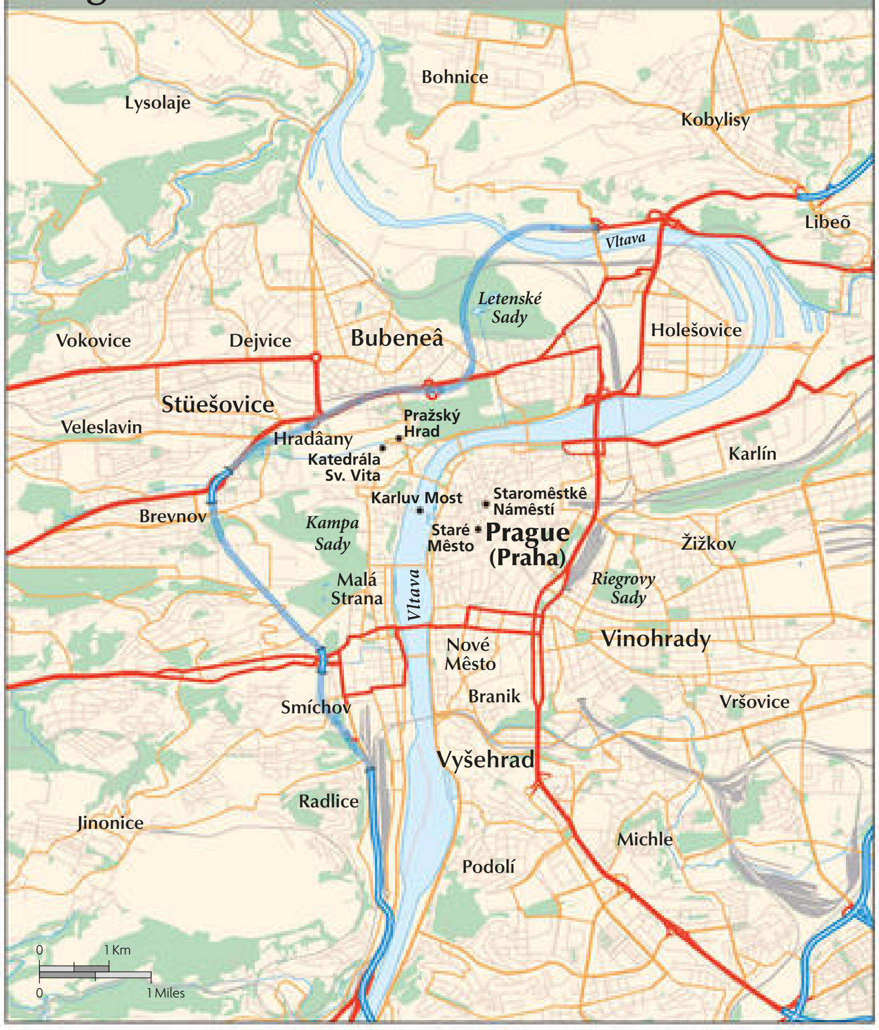
Munich



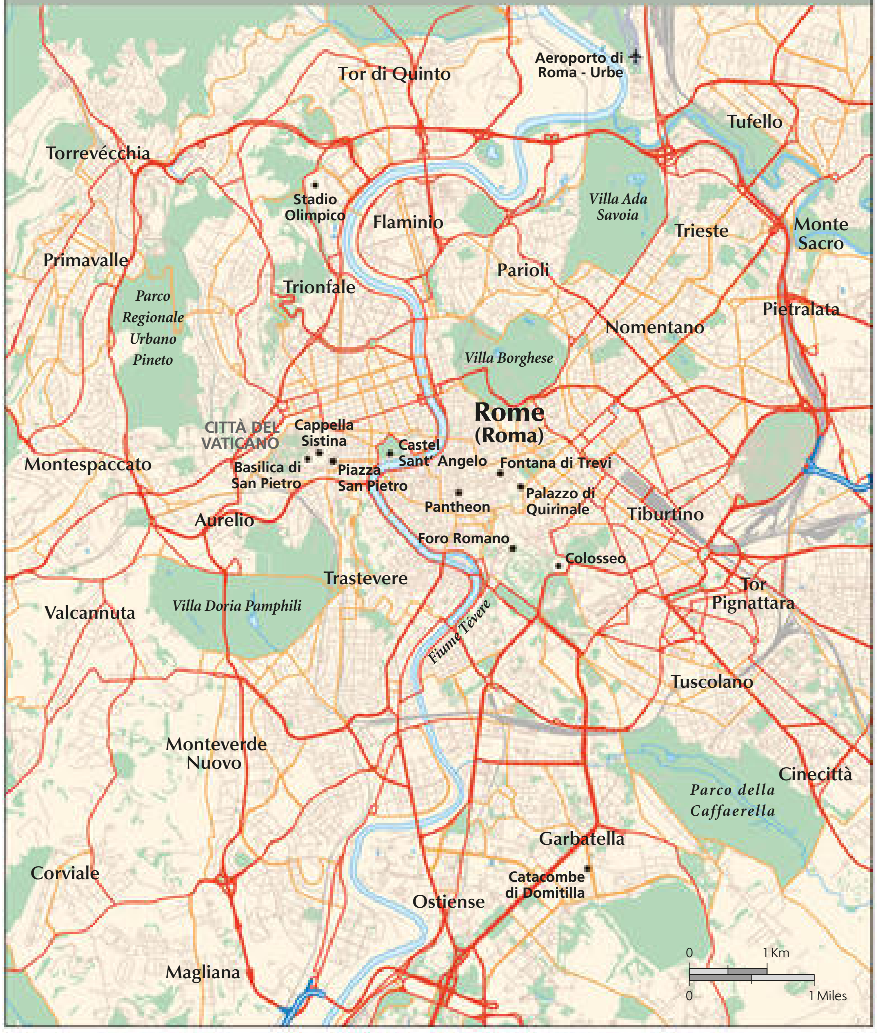
Oslo



Prague



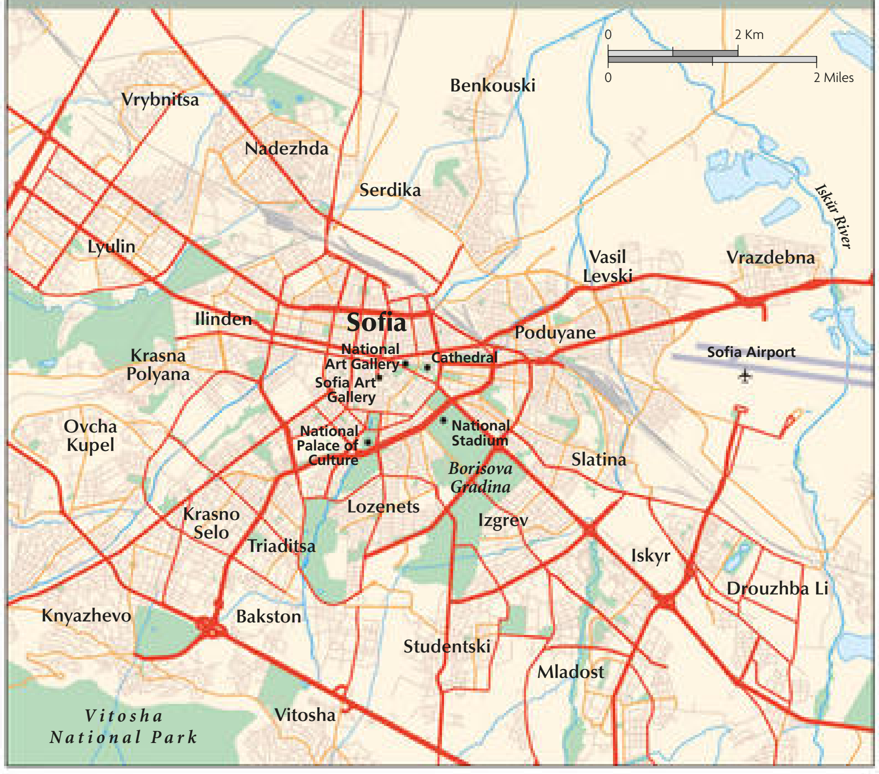
Rome



St Petersburg



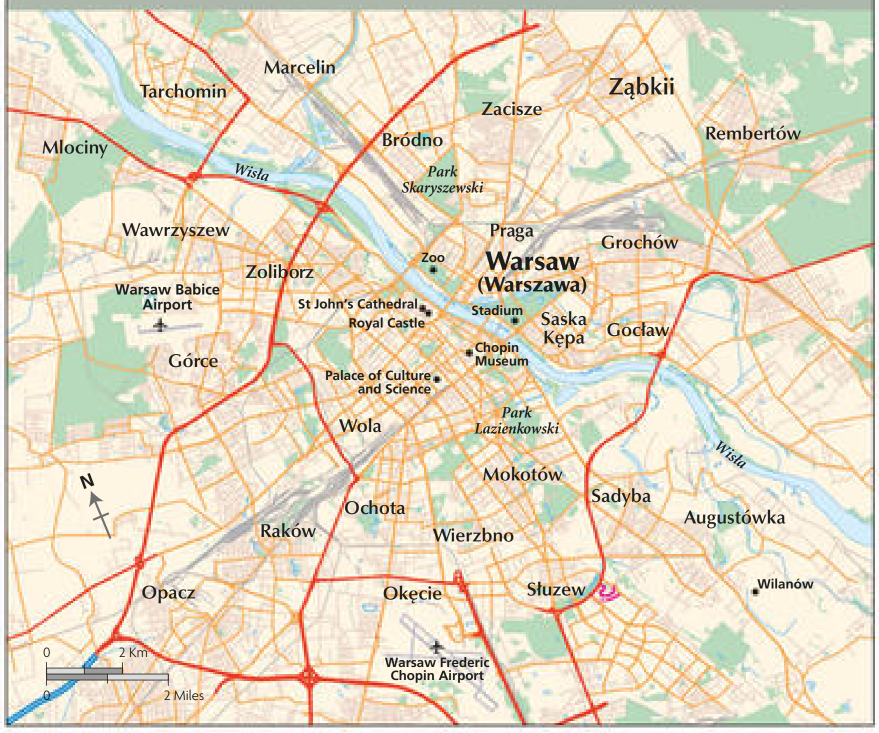
Sofia



Stockholm



Warsaw



Zagreb



ASIA

Asia is the world's largest continent with a total area of 16,838,365 sq miles (43,608,000 sq km). It comprises 49 separate countries, including 97% of Turkey and 72% of the Russian Federation. Almost 60% of the world's population lives in Asia.

FACTFILE

- **N** **Most Northerly Point:** Mys Articheskiy, Russia 81° 12′ N
- **S** **Most Southerly Point:** Pulau Pamana, Indonesia 11° S
- **E** **Most Easterly Point:** Mys Dezhneva, Russia 169° 40′ W
- **W** **Most Westerly Point:** Bozzcaada, Turkey 26° 2′ E

Largest Lakes:
1. Caspian Sea, Asia/Europe 143,243 sq miles (371,000 sq km)
2. Lake Baikal, Russian Federation 11,776 sq miles (30,500 sq km)
3. Lake Balkhash, Kazakhstan/China 7115 sq miles (18,428 sq km)
4. Aral Sea, Kazakhstan/Uzbekistan 6625 sq miles (17,160 sq km)
5. Tonlé Sap, Cambodia 3861 sq miles (10,000 sq km)

Longest Rivers:
1. Yangtze, China 3915 miles (6299 km)
2. Yellow River, China 3395 miles (5464 km)
3. Mekong, SE Asia 2749 miles (4425 km)
4. Lena, Russian Federation 2734 miles (4400 km)
5. Yenisey, Russian Federation 2541 miles (4090 km)

Largest Islands:
1. Borneo, Brunie/Indonesia/Malaysia 292,222 sq miles (757,050 sq km)
2. Sumatra, Indonesia 202,300 sq miles (524,000 sq km)
3. Honshu, Japan 88,800 sq miles (230,000 sq km)
4. Sulawesi, Indonesia 73,057 sq miles (189,218 sq km)
5. Java, Indonesia 53,589 sq miles (138,794 sq km)

Highest Points:
1. Mount Everest, China/Nepal 29,029 ft (8848 m)
2. K2, China/Pakistan 28,253 ft (8611 m)
3. Kangchenjunga I, India/Nepal 28,210 ft (8598 m)
4. Lhotse, Nepal 27,939 ft (8516 m)
5. Makalu, China/Nepal 27,767 ft (8463 m)

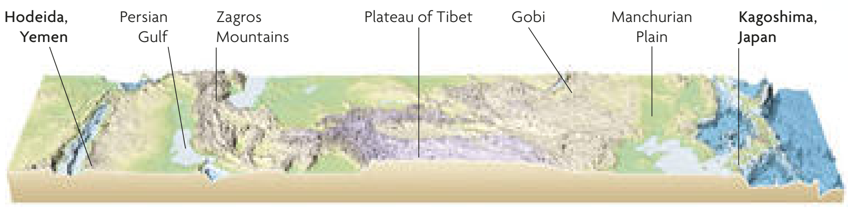
Lowest Point:
Dead Sea, Israel/Jordan -1401 ft (-427 m) below sea level

Highest recorded temperature:
Tirat Zevi, Israel 129°F (54°C)

Lowest recorded temperature:
Verkhoyansk, Russian Federation -90°F (-68°C)

Wettest Place:
Cherrapunji, India 450 in (11,430 mm)

Driest Place:
Aden, Yemen 1.8 in (46 mm)



Cross-section from Hodeida, Yemen to Kagoshima, Japan





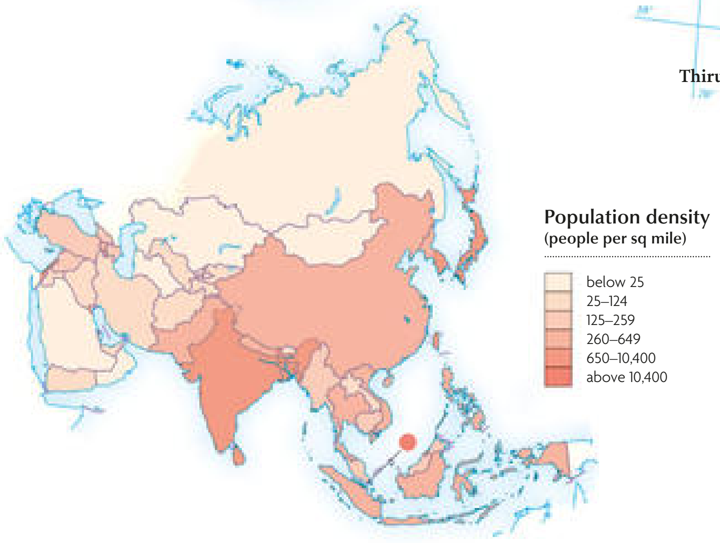
H
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ARCTIC OCEAN
North Pole
NORTH AMERICAN PLATE
EURASIAN PLATE
Franz Josef Land
Norwegian Sea
Scandinavia
Barents Sea
North Cape
Novaya Zemlya
Kara Sea
Severnaya Zemlya
Mys Chelyuskin
Laptev Sea
New Siberian Islands
East Siberian Sea
Long Strait
Bering Strait
Chukot Range
Arctic Circle
Bering Sea
Koryak Range
Aleutian Basin
North Sea
Gulf of Bothnia
Kola Peninsula
White Sea
Baltic Sea
Gulf of Finland
Lake Ladoga
Lake Onega
Lake Peipus
Rhine
Vistula
North European Plain
EUROPE
Central Russian Upland
Dnieper
Desna
Don
Khoper
Oka
Volga
Dniester
Sukhona
Vychegda
Pechora
Kama
Vyatka
Ural Mountains
Poluostrov Yamal
Gydanskiy Poluostrov
Ob
Nadym
Taz
Pur
Kazym
Irtysh
Yenisey
Poluostrov Taymyr
Kheta
Putorana Mountains
Kureyka
Kotuy
Anabar
North Siberian Lowland
Olenek
Lena
Central Siberian Plateau
Lower Tunguska
Markha
Stony Tunguska
Vilyuy
Verkhoyanskiy Khrebet
Indigirka
Khrebet Cherskogo
Kolyma
Kolymskaya Range
Omolon
Penzhina
Kamchatka
Sea of Okhotsk
Siberia
West Siberian Plain
Vasyugan
Agan
Vakh
Tym
Chulym
Angara
Biryusa
Aldan
Amga
Yudoma
Maya
Uchur
Olekma
Stanovoy Khrebet
Zeya Reservoir
Zeya
Amur
Selemdzha
Bureya
Black Sea
Sea of Azov
Caspian Depression
Caspian Sea
Caucasus
Elbrus 5642m
Kura
Lake Van
Lake Urmia
Aras
Ural
Uy
Iset'
Tobol
Ishim
Om'
Lake Chany
Tomi
Ozero Teniz
Nura
Kirghiz Steppe
Sarysu
Zhem
Ustyurt Plateau
Aral Sea
Turan Lowland
Syr Darya
Amu Darya
Kara Kum
Aydarkul
Atrak
Elburz Mountains
Daryacheh-ye Namak
Great Salt Desert
Zagros Mountains
Tigris
Lake Balkhash
Ile
Shu
Ozero Issyk-Kul'
Naryn
Lake Zaysan
Irtysh
Ozero Alakol'
Altai Mountains
Dzungaria
Tien Shan
Uvs Nuur
Sayanskiy Khrebet
Tes-Khem
Hövsgöl Nuur
Hyargas Nuur
Dzavhan Gol
Lake Baikal
Vitim
Selenga
Chikoy
Shilka
Yablonovyy Khrebet
Argun
Hulun Nur
Kerulen
Orhon Gol
Tuul Gol
ASIA
Plateau of Mongolia
Gobi
Great Khingan Range
Manchurian Plain
Nen Jiang
Songhua
Ussuri
Lake Khanka
Khrebet Sikhote-Alin
Sakhalin
Tatarskiy Proliv
Hokkaido
Kuril Islands
Kuril-Kamchatka Trench
Pamirs
Tarim He
Tarim Basin
Takla Makan Desert
Hotan He
Yarkant He
Keriya He
Qarqan He
Kongi He
Lop Nur
Shule He
Ruo Shui
Xar Moron
Liao He
Yalu
Kuh-e Fuladi 5143m
Kuh-e-Baba
Hindu Kush
Karakoram Range
K2 8611m
Iranian Plateau
Indus
Altun Shan
Nan Shan
Qilian Shan
Yellow River
Ordos Desert
Wutai Shan
Taihang Shan
Yongding He
Bo Hai
Korea Bay
Sea of Japan (East Sea)
Japan
Honshu
Japan Trench
Kunlun Mountains
Plateau of Tibet
Himalaya
Qinghai Hu
Wei He
Great Plain of China
Yellow River
Yellow Sea
Korea Strait
Jeju-do
Shikoku
Kyushu
Persian Gulf
Strait of Hormuz
Gulf of Oman
Hamun Jaz Murian
Central Makran Range
Oman Basin
Rigestan
Sulaiman Range
Jhelum
Punjab Plains
Sutlej
Thar Desert
Luni
Siling Co
Dogai Coring
Tangra Yumco
Nam Co
Brahmaputra
Annapurna 8091m
Mount Everest 8848m
Ghaghara
Bayan Har Shan
Xiqing Shan
Han Shui
Huai He
Jialing Jiang
Min Jiang
Dadu He
Yangtze
Hong Hu
Dongting Hu
Tai Hu
East China Sea
Shaluli Shan
Salween
Subansiri
IRANIAN PLATE
ARABIAN PLATE
INDO-AUSTRALIAN PLATE
Khalij Masirah
Gulf of Kachchh
Sabarmati
Mahi
Banas
Chambal
Betwa
Yamuna
Ganges
Son
Damodar
Vindhya Range
Narmada
Satpura Range
Brahmaputra
Khasi Hills
Patkai Range
Chindwin
Gulf of Khambhat
Ajanta Range
Godavari
Wainganga
Mahanadi
Brahmani
Deccan
Indravati
Mouths of the Ganges
Arakan Yoma
Irrawaddy
Sittang
Salween
Ailao Shan
Red River
Black River
Yuan Jiang
Xiang Jiang
Gan Jiang
Wuyi Shan
Beipan Jiang
Xi Jiang
Dongnan Qiuling
Taiwan Strait
Taiwan
Ryukyu Islands
Shikoku Basin
Tropic of Cancer
PHILIPPINE PLATE
PACIFIC PLATE
Owen Fracture Zone
Arabian Sea
Arabian Basin
Bhima
Krishna
Tungabhadra
Western Ghats
Eastern Ghats
Godavari
Penneru
Coromandel Coast
Malabar Coast
Kaveri
Laccadive Islands
Bay of Bengal
Gulf of Martaban
Chao Phraya
Mekong
Nam Ma
Gulf of Tonkin
Hainan
Hainan Strait
Luzon Strait
Luzon
Philippine Sea
Kyushu-Palau Ridge
PACIFIC OCEAN
Chi
Mun
Truong Son
Tonlé Sap
South China Sea
Philippine Basin
Andaman Islands
Andaman Sea
Isthmus of Kra
Gulf of Thailand
Cape Comorin
Gulf of Mannar
Sri Lanka
Carlsberg Ridge
INDIAN OCEAN
Maldives
Chagos-Laccadive Plateau
Nicobar Islands
Mouths of the Mekong
South China Basin
Mindoro
Panay
Negros
Philippines
Samar
Palawan
Sulu Sea
Mindanao
Philippine Trench
Palau
Caroline Basin
Eauripik Rise
Equator
Ceylon Plain
Nikitin Seamount
Chagos Bank
Chagos Trench
Danau Toba
Strait of Malacca
Malay Peninsula
Anambas Islands
Sunda Shelf
Natuna Islands
Gunung Kinabalu 4094m
Celebes Sea
Halmahera
New Guinea Trench
Tanjong Piai
Greater Sunda Islands
Kapuas Sungai
Borneo
Makassar Strait
Molucca Sea
Gunung Kerinci 3806m
Sumatra
Pulau Bangka
Barito Sungai
Sulawesi
Moluccas
Buru
Seram
New Guinea
Mid-Indian Ridge
Mid-Indian Basin
Ninetyeast Ridge
Cocos Basin
Investigator Ridge
Mentawai Ridge
Selat Sunda
East Indies
Java Sea
Java
Bali
Banda Sea
Flores Sea
Lesser Sunda Islands
Flores
Sumba
Timor
Arafura Sea
Torres Strait
Sunda Trench
Java Trench
Timor Trough
Cocos Islands
Christmas Island
AUSTRALIA
Tropic of Capricorn

ASIA – Political



Political

Asia is the world's largest continent, encompassing many different and discrete realms, from the desert Arab lands of the southwest to the subtropical archipelago of Indonesia; from the vast barren wastes of Siberia to the fertile river valleys of China and South Asia, seats of some of the world's most ancient civilizations. The collapse of the Soviet Union has fragmented the north of the continent into the Siberian portion of the Russian Federation, and the new republics of Central Asia. Strong religious traditions heavily influence the politics of South and Southwest Asia. Hindu and Muslim rivalries threaten to upset the political equilibrium in South Asia where India—in terms of population—remains the world's largest democracy. China, another population giant, is reasserting its position as a world political and economic power, while on its doorstep, the dynamic Pacific Rim countries, led by Japan, continue to assert their worldwide economic force.



Population

Some of the world's most populous and least populous regions are in Asia. The plains of eastern China, the Ganges River plains in India, Japan, and the Indonesian island of Java, all have very high population densities; by contrast parts of Siberia and the Plateau of Tibet are virtually uninhabited. China has the world's greatest population—20% of the globe's total—while India, with the second largest, has more than one billion.





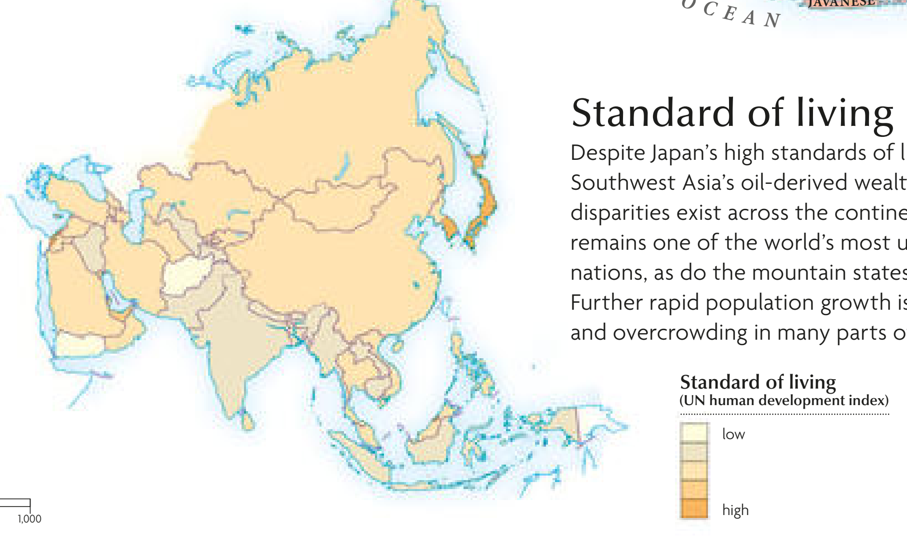
Transportation

The transportation system varies enormously in extent and quality across Asia. Early trade routes included the Silk Route, from Beijing across Central Asia, and the sea routes around the coastline of southern Asia. Today, transportation networks often radiate from coastal ports, reflecting the continuing importance of sea and river travel for trade and external communications. In the interior, high mountain barriers such as the Himalayas, the Altai Mountains, and the Tien Shan, deserts like the Gobi, Takla Makan, and Ar Rub' al Khali, remain virtually impenetrable to most modern terrestrial transportation. Major engineering feats are necessary to conquer these hostile frontier territories, although the success of the Trans-Siberian Railway in overcoming the harsh Siberian landscape, proves that cross-continental transportation, if not economically viable, is physically possible.



Languages

During the 19th century, Russian was introduced into Central Asia and Siberia. Under the Soviets, Russian-speaking became mandatory—replacing the indigenous Ural-Altaic languages in many urban areas—although today the use of Central Asian languages is being revived in the new republics. India's linguistic mosaic comprises Dravidian languages, such as Tamil, in the south, and the Indo-Aryan languages of the north such as Hindi. In China, three main languages, Mandarin Chinese, Wu Chinese, and Cantonese, share the same written form but their spoken dialects are mutually unintelligible.



Standard of living

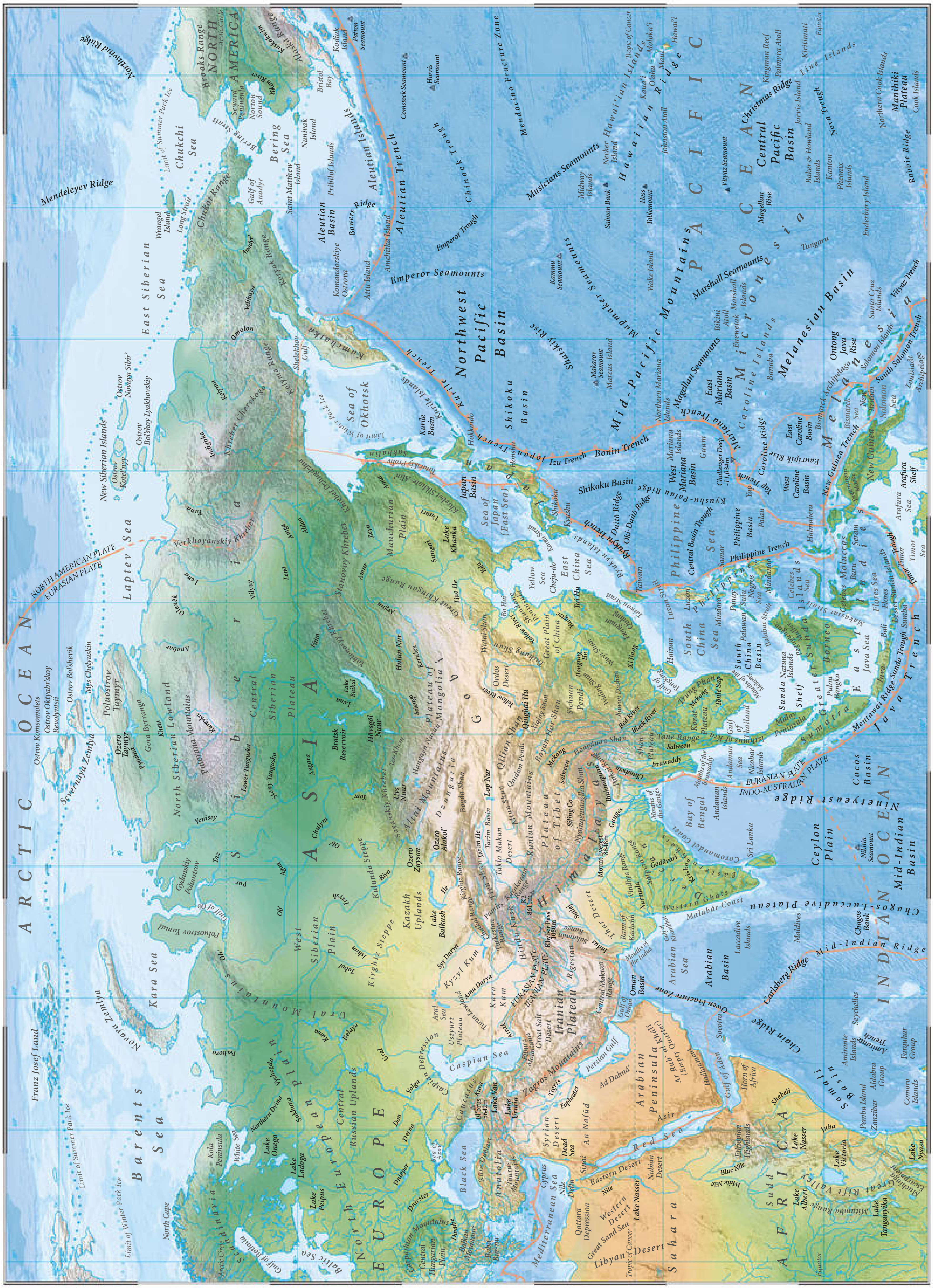
Despite Japan's high standards of living, and Southwest Asia's oil-derived wealth, immense disparities exist across the continent. Afghanistan remains one of the world's most underdeveloped nations, as do the mountain states of Nepal and Bhutan. Further rapid population growth is exacerbating poverty and overcrowding in many parts of India and Bangladesh.

Standard of living
(UN human development index)

low

high

ASIA – Physical



Scale 1:47,500,000
(projection: Gall Stereographic)

0 500 1000 1500 Km
0 500 1000 1500 Miles

Climate

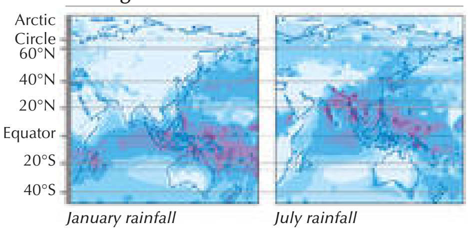
The climate of Asia exhibits marked differences from region to region, with freezing polar conditions in the north, hot and cold deserts in central regions and subtropical conditions throughout the south. Much of this variation can be attributed to enormous mountain barriers and internal depressions found across the continent. Monsoon winds, which reverse semi-annually, cause alternate wet and dry seasons across southern Asia. These air masses moving north from the ocean are stripped of their moisture over the Himalayas causing arid conditions across the Plateau of Tibet. Both the south and east are susceptible to tropical cyclones or typhoons.



Climate

- tundra
- subarctic
- cool continental
- warm humid
- mediterranean
- semi-arid
- arid
- humid equatorial
- tropical
- daily hours of sunshine, January
- daily hours of sunshine, July
- cyclone
- typhoon
- cold/dry monsoon
- warm/wet monsoon
- cold wind

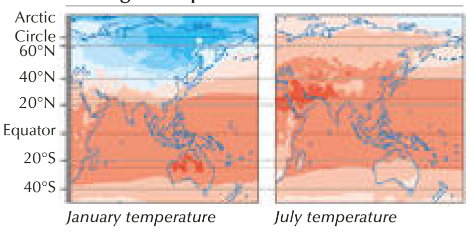
Average Rainfall



Rainfall

- 0–1 in (0–25 mm)
- 1–2 in (25–50 mm)
- 2–4 in (50–100 mm)
- 4–8 in (100–200 mm)
- 8–12 in (200–300 mm)
- 12–16 in (300–400 mm)
- 16–20 in (400–500 mm)
- more than 20 in (500 mm)

Average Temperature



Temperature

- below -22°F (-30°C)
- -22 to -4°F (-30 to -20°C)
- -4 to 14°F (-20 to -10°C)
- 14 to 32°F (-10 to 0°C)
- 32 to 50°F (0 to 10°C)
- 50 to 68°F (10 to 20°C)
- 68 to 86°F (20 to 30°C)
- above 86°F (30°C)

Environmental issues

The transformation of Uzbekistan by the former Soviet Union into the world's fifth largest producer of cotton led to the diversion of several major rivers for irrigation. Starved of this water, the Aral Sea diminished in volume by over 75% since 1960, irreversibly altering the ecology of the area. Heavy industries in eastern China have polluted coastal waters, rivers and urban air, while in Myanmar (Burma), Malaysia and Indonesia, ancient hardwood rainforests are felled faster than they can regenerate.



Environmental issues

- tropical forest
- forest destroyed
- desert
- desertification
- acid rain
- polluted rivers
- marine pollution
- heavy marine pollution
- radioactive contamination
- poor urban air quality

Using the land and sea

- cropland
- desert
- forest
- mountain region
- pasture
- tundra
- wetland
- major conurbations
- cattle
- pigs
- goats
- sheep
- coconuts
- corn (maize)
- cotton
- dates
- fishing
- fruit
- jute
- peanuts
- rice
- rubber
- shellfish
- soya beans
- sugar beet
- sugar cane
- tea
- timber
- wheat



Land use

Vast areas of Asia remain uncultivated as a result of unsuitable climatic and soil conditions. In favourable areas such as river deltas, farming is intensive. Rice is the staple crop of most Asian countries, grown in paddy fields on waterlogged alluvial plains and terraced hillsides, and often irrigated for higher yields. Across the black earth region of the Eurasian steppe in southern Siberia and Kazakhstan, wheat farming is the dominant activity. Cash crops, like tea in Sri Lanka and dates in the Arabian Peninsula, are grown for export, and provide valuable income. The sovereignty of the rich fishing grounds in the South China Sea is disputed by China, Malaysia, Taiwan, the Philippines and Vietnam, because of potential oil reserves.

ASIA



1 BOSPORUS, TURKEY
The Bosporus provides the only outlet for the Black Sea, linking it with the Sea of Marmara to the south and then with the Mediterranean Sea via the Dardanelles.



2 MOUNT ARARAT, TURKEY
Said to be the resting place for Noah's Ark, this extinct volcanic massif lies in the far east of Turkey.



3 LAKE BALKASH, KAZAKHSTAN
Still covered in winter ice in this image, this lakes lies in a dry desert region and has no outlet.



4 OZERO ISSYK-KUL', KYRGYZSTAN
Against the dry slopes of the Tien Shan mountains to the south this lake appears bright blue.



9 KUWAIT'S OILFIELDS, KUWAIT
The dark plumes are smoke rising from the 700 wells set alight by Iraqi forces during the Gulf War of 1991.



10 PALM ISLAND, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
This luxury housing development and tourist resort, one mile (1.6 km) off the seafront of Dubai, is built from sediments dredged from the nearby port of Jebel Ali.



11 MALDIVES
The Maldives consist of 1300 coral formations in 19 atolls and stretch over 1491 miles (2400 km).



12 KARACHI, PAKISTAN
Pakistan's main seaport and former capital lies to the northwest of the delta of the Indus river.









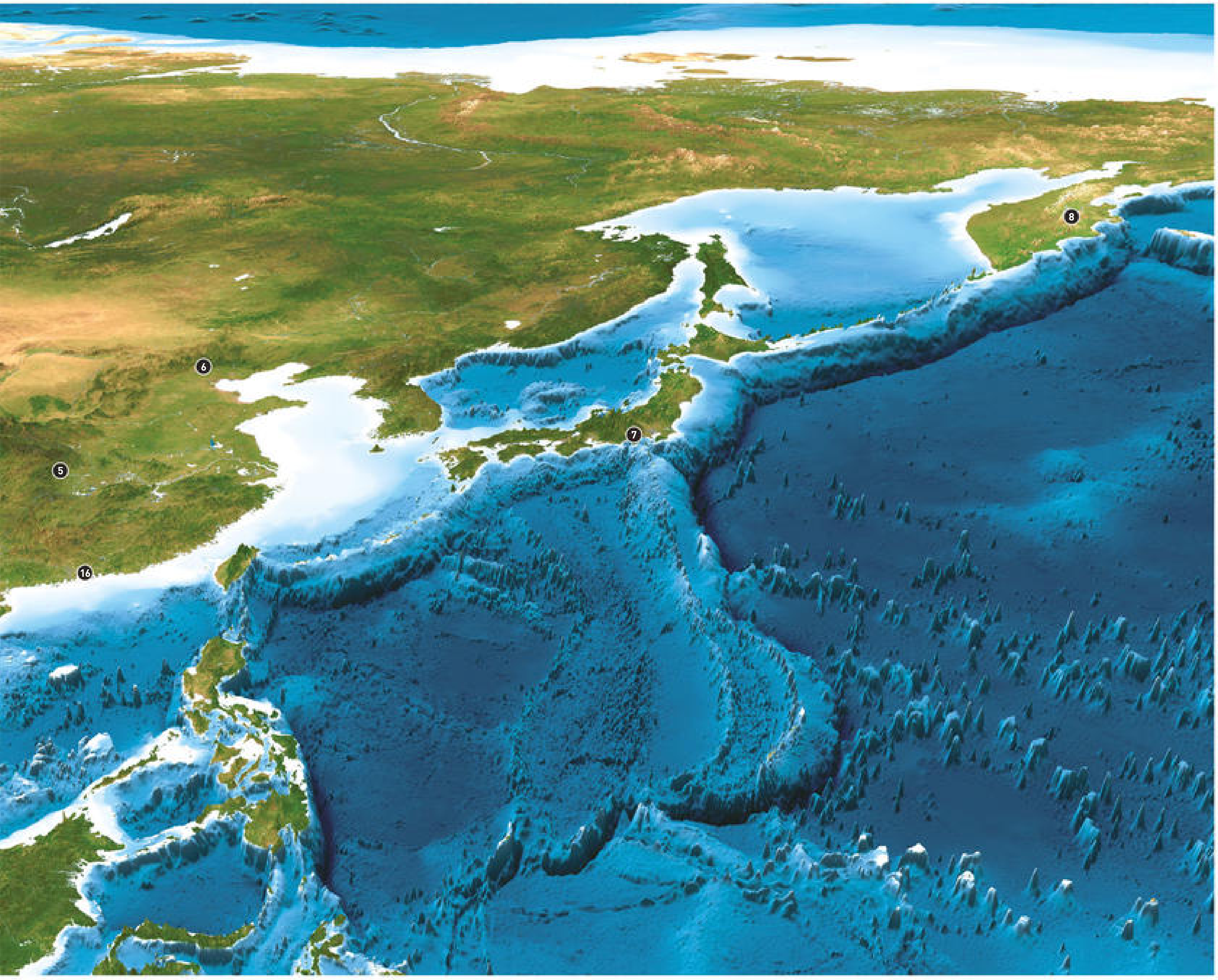


THREE GORGES DAM, CHINA 5
Seen here during its construction in 2000, the world's largest dam is designed to tame the Yangtze river which has regularly flooded.

BEIJING, CHINA 6
China's ancient capital was laid out on a grid pattern centred on the Forbidden City and its streets are picked out in this winter image by snowfall.

MOUNT FUJI, JAPAN 7
The steep, symmetrical, snow-capped volcano last erupted in 1707.

VULKAN KLYUCHEVSKAYA SOPKA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION 8
The Kamchatka Peninsula's highest and most active volcano last erupted in 1994.



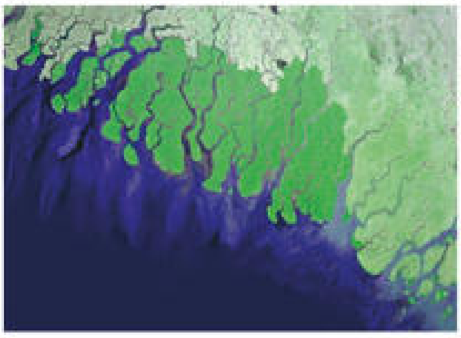
MOUNT EVEREST, CHINA/NEPAL 13
The world's highest mountain at 29,029 ft (8848 m) straddles the border between China and Nepal.

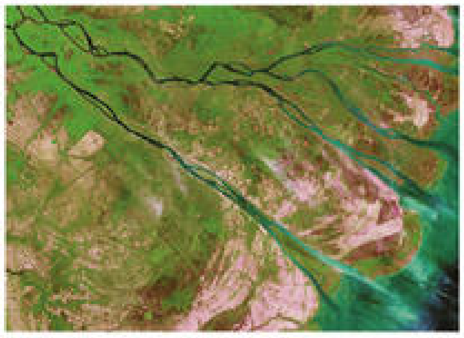
MOUTHS OF THE GANGES, BANGLADESH/INDIA 14
Stretching across the northern end of the Bay of Bengal, this river delta contains the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, which appears as a rich green area.

MEKONG DELTA, VIETNAM 15
The Mekong river flows over 2494 miles (4000 km) from the Plateau of Tibet before crossing Vietnam to reach the South China Sea.

HONG KONG, CHINA 16
This image was taken around the time that Hong Kong was handed back to China by the British in 1997, this city remains east Asia's trade and finance center.



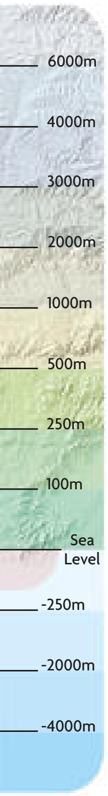






Southwest Asia





Scale 1:11,750,000

(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

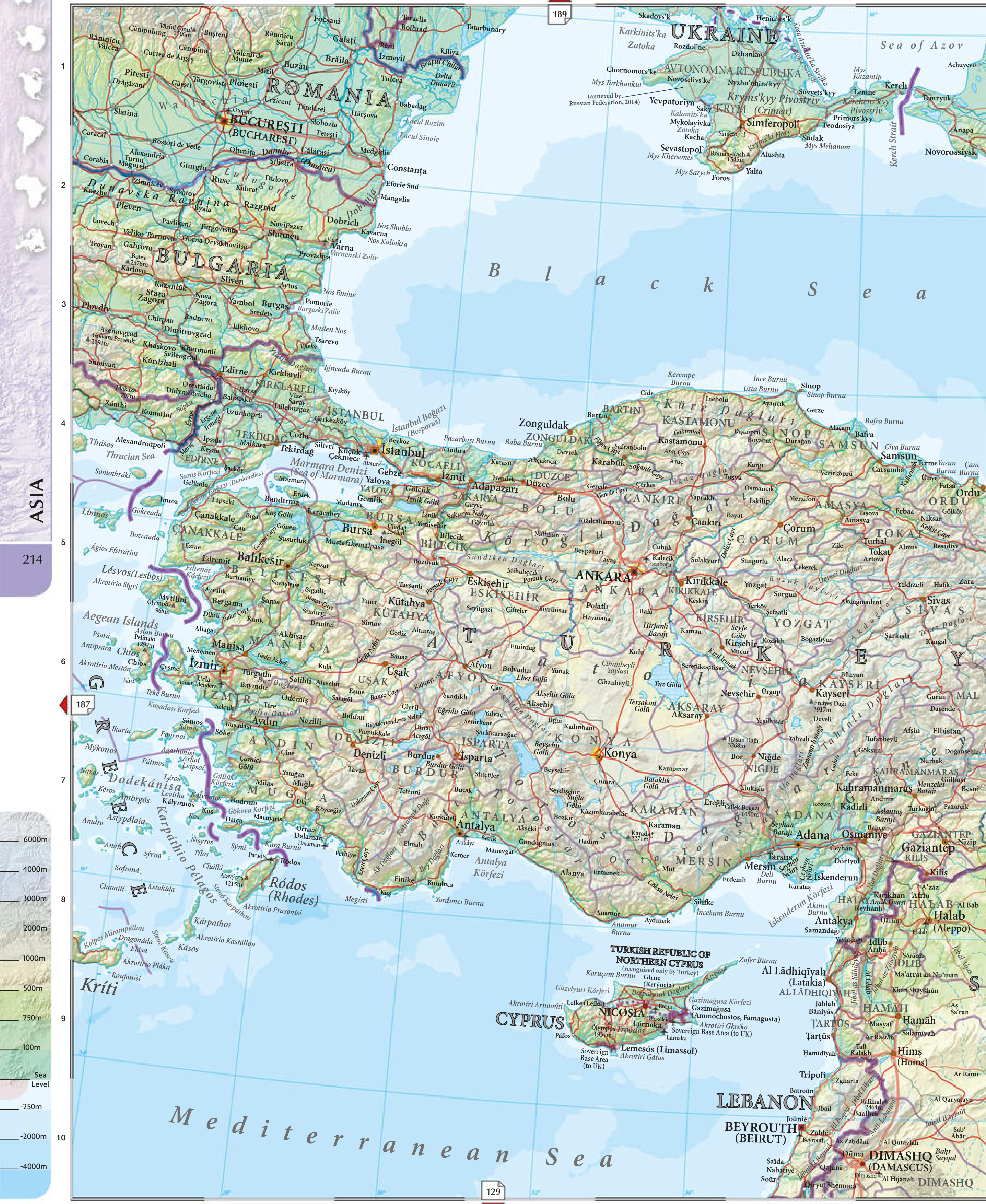




ASIA

Turkey & the Caucasus

189
187
129



Scale 1:4,300,000

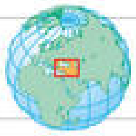
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



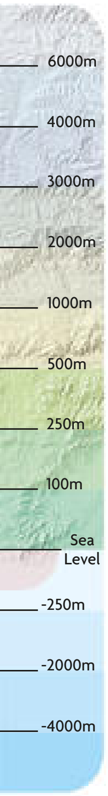


ASIA

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

The Near East





Scale 1:3,000,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

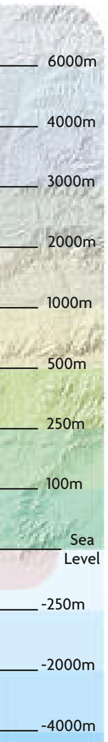
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



215
221
222

Israel & Lebanon





Scale 1:1,500,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

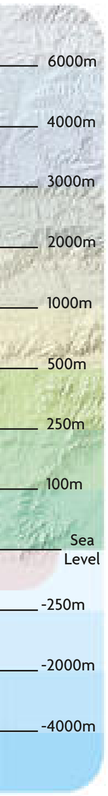
Population
above 5 million
1 million to 5 million
500,000 to 1 million
100,000 to 500,000
50,000 to 100,000
10,000 to 50,000
below 10,000





The Arabian Peninsula





Scale 1:8,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

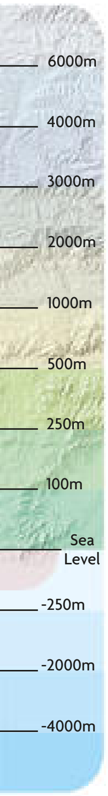


ASIA

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Iran & the Gulf States





Scale 1:5,600,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

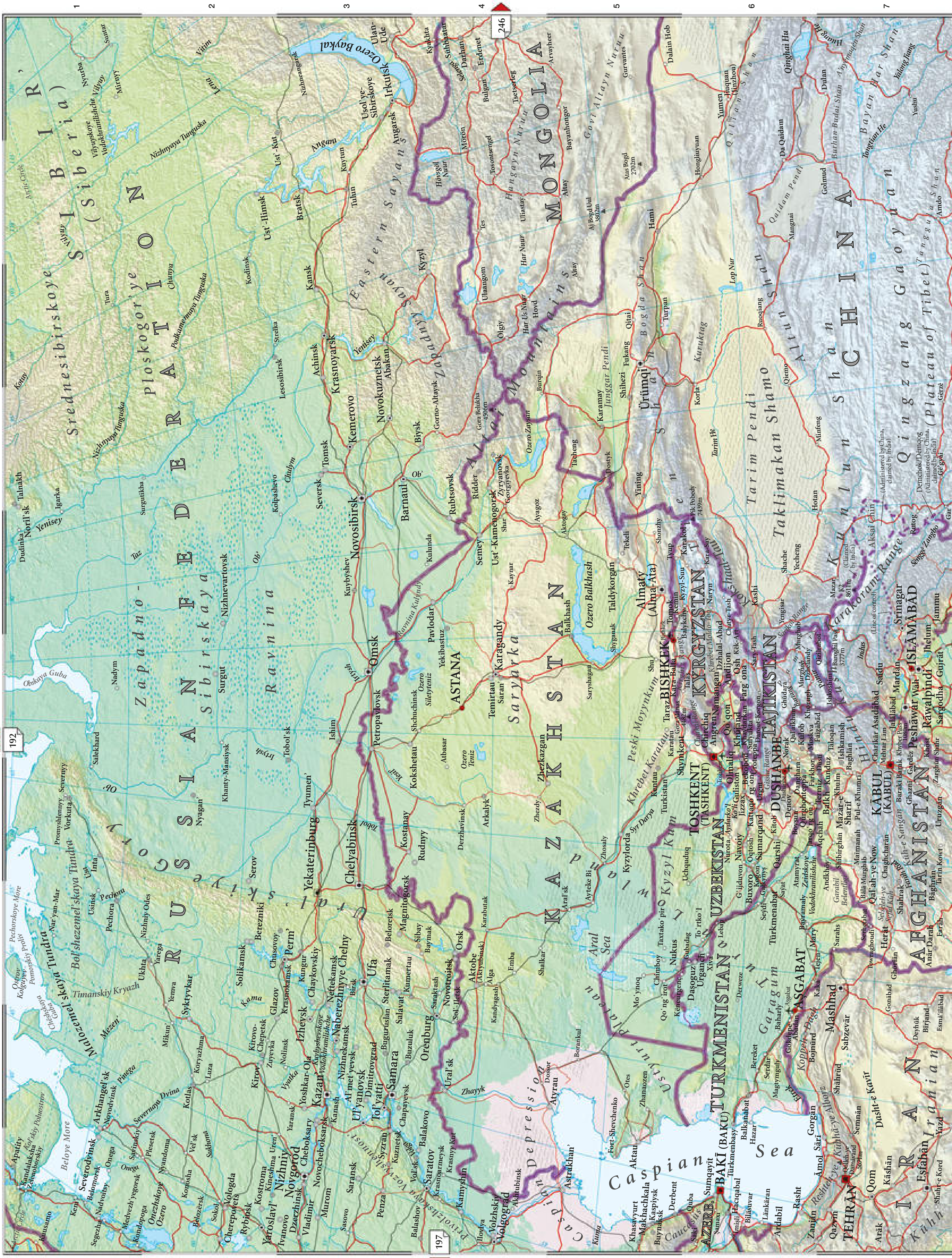


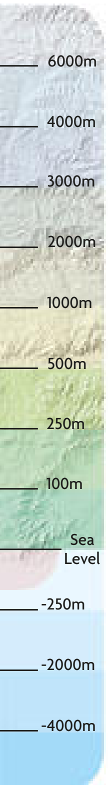


ASIA



South & Central Asia





246
192
197

Scale 1:15,500,000

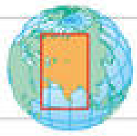
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

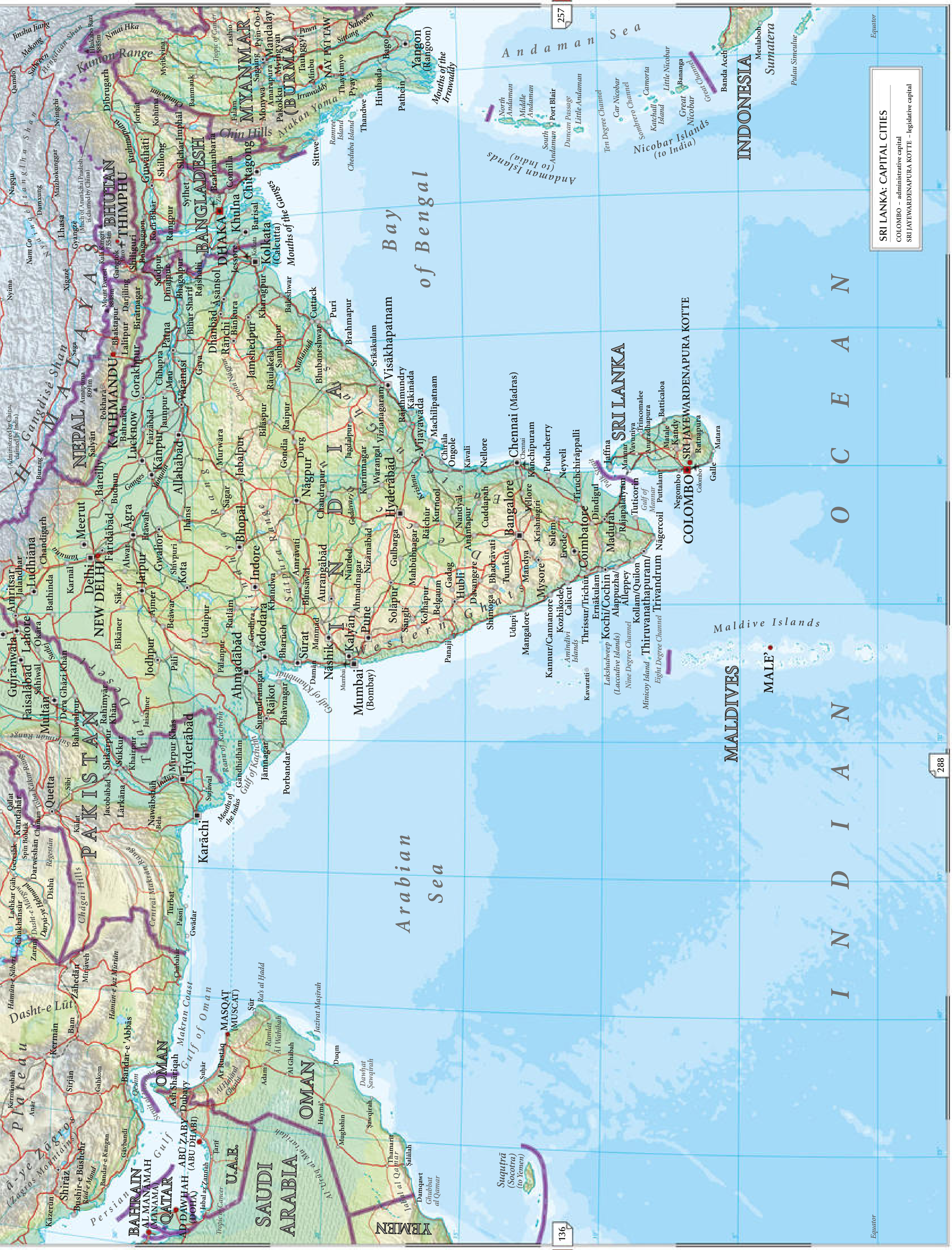
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Km

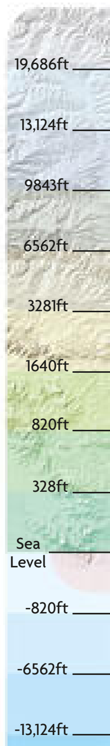
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Miles

Population

- ▣ above 5 million
- ▣ 1 million to 5 million
- ◉ 500,000 to 1 million
- ◎ 100,000 to 500,000
- ⊕ 50,000 to 100,000
- ○ 10,000 to 50,000
- ○ below 10,000



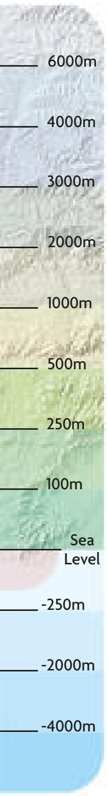




Kazakhstan



A B C D E F G
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
195
197
223
RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
UZBEKISTAN
TURKMENISTAN
AZERBAIJAN
IRAN
Caspian Sea
Aral Sea
Caspian Depression
Ustyurt Plateau
Kyzylkum
Garagum
Turgayskaya Stolovaya Strana
Ryn-Peski
Peski Bol'shiye Barsuki
Gory Mugodzhary
Köppeh Dagh
ZAPADNYY KAZAKHSTAN
ATYRAU
AKTYUBINSK
KOSTANAY
KYZYLORDA
MANGYSTAU
QORAQALPOG'ISTON RESPUBLIKASI
NAVOIY VILOYATI
BUXORO VILOYATI
XORAZM VILOYATI
QASHQADARYO VILOYATI
SAMARQAND VILOYATI
DAŞOGUZ WELAÝATY
LEBAP WELAÝATY
AHAL WELAÝATY
BALKAN WELAÝATY
MARY WELAÝATY
RESPUBLIKA BASHKORTOSTAN
RESPUBLIKA TATARSTAN
RESPUBLIKA MORDOVIYA
RESPUBLIKA KALMYKIYA
RESPUBLIKA DAGESTAN
ORENBURGSKAYA OBLAST'
SAMARSKAYA OBLAST'
SARATOVSKAYA OBLAST'
VOLGOGRADSKAYA OBLAST'
ASTRAKHANSKAYA OBLAST'
CHELYABINSKAYA OBLAST'
KURGANSKAYA OBLAST'
PENZENSKAYA OBLAST'
UL'YANOVSKAYA OBLAST'
Ul'yanovsk
Saransk
Penza
Samara
Tol'yatti
Syzran
Novokuybyshevsk
Saratov
Engel's
Kamyshin
Volzhskiy
Ufa
Sterlitamak
Salavat
Chelyabinsk
Zlatoust
Miass
Magnitogorsk
Kurgan
Orenburg
Orsk
Novotroitsk
Ural'sk
Aktobe (Aktyubinsk)
Kostanay
Rudnyy
Atyrau
Astrakhan'
Aktau
Makhachkala
Derbent
Kaspiysk
Sumqayit
BAKI (BAKU)
Türkmenbaşy
Balkanabat
Aşgabat
Mary
Türkmenabat
Daşoguz
Nukus
Urganch
Buxoro
Navoiy
Qarshi
Kyzylorda
Aral'sk
Beyneu
Rasht
Gorgan
Sari
Babol
Amol
Qazvin
Ardabil
Bojnurd
Quchan
Zhanaozen
Kul'sary
Embi
Shalkar
Khromtau
Kandyagash
Turgay
Arkalyk
Baykonyr
Zhosaly
Irgiz
Uralsk
Mangyshlak
Plato Mangystau
Sor Mertvyy Kultuk
Zaliv Komsomolets
Garabogazköl
Krasnovodskoye Plato
Çilmämmetgum
Üngüz Angyrsyndaky Garagum
Merkezi Garagumy



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

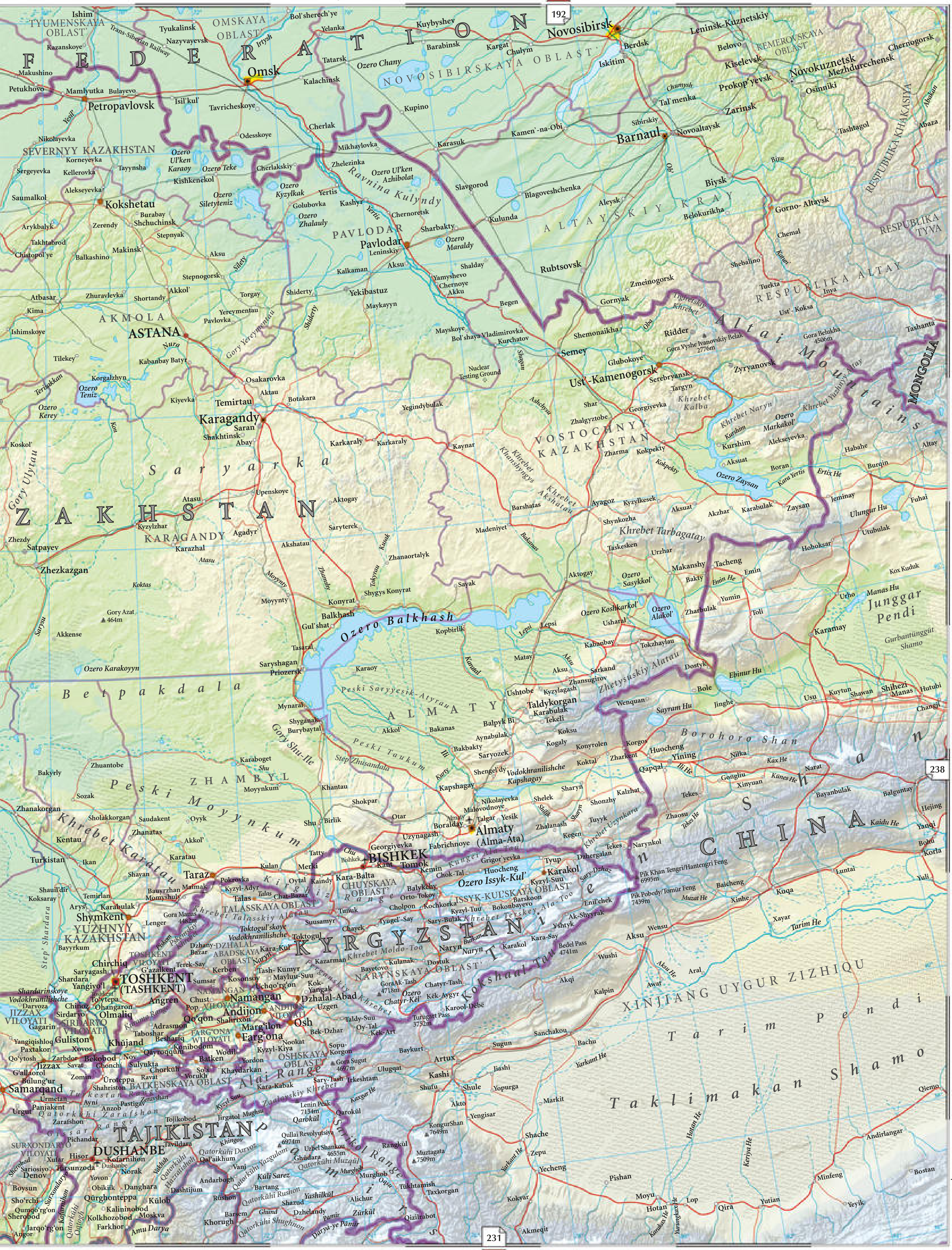
Scale 1:6,250,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

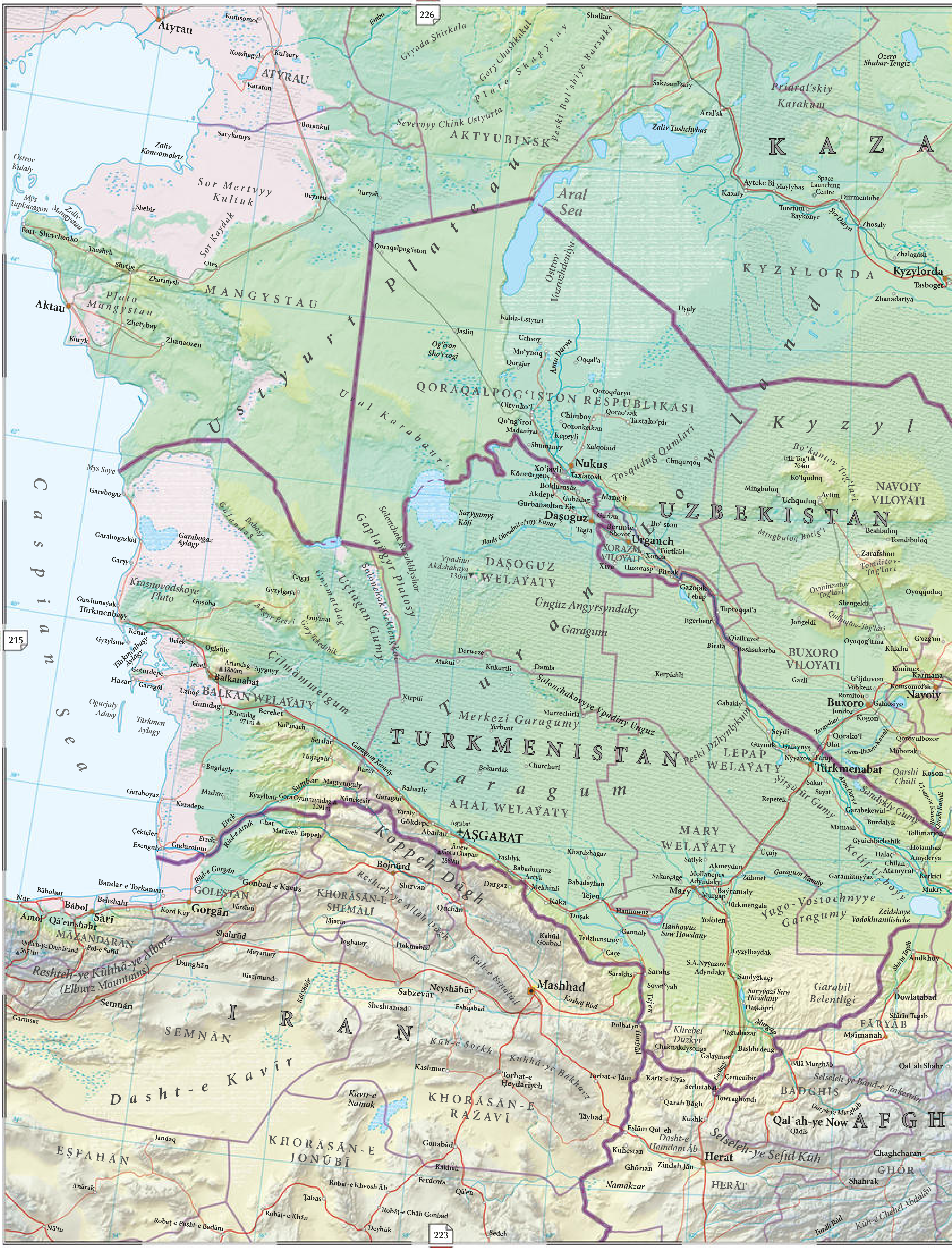
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

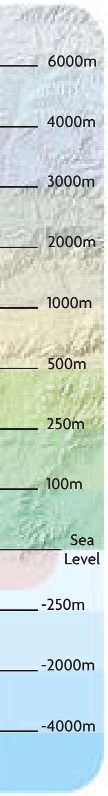
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Central Asia





Scale 1:4,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population

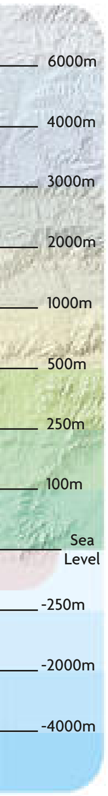
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Afghanistan & Pakistan





Scale 1:5,250,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

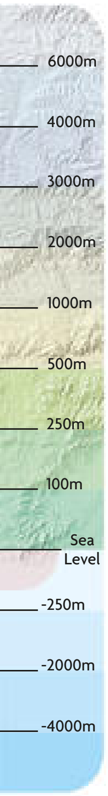
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Northern India, Nepal & Bangladesh





Scale 1:6,250,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

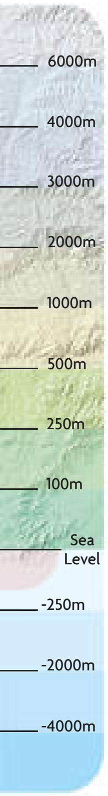
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southern India & Sri Lanka





Scale 1:6,750,000

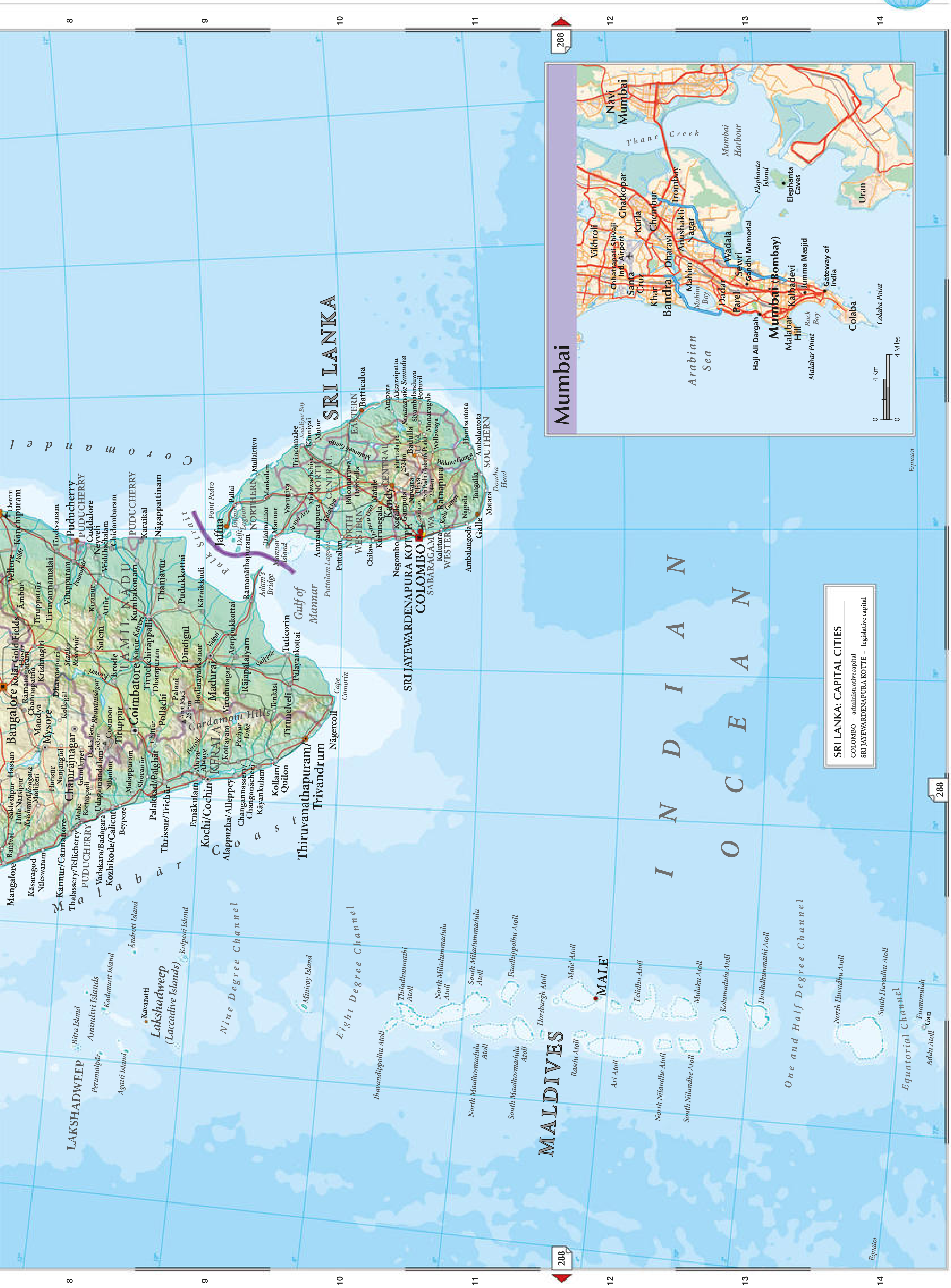
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

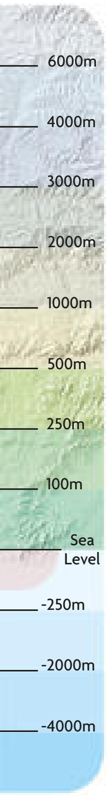
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

East Asia

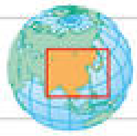

192
231
256
RUSSIA
KAZAKHSTAN
KYRGYZSTAN
MONGOLIA
CHINA
NEPAL
BHUTAN
BANGLADESH
INDIA
MYANMAR (BURMA)
LAOS
THAILAND
VIETNAM
ASTANA
BISHKEK
ULAANBAATAR (ULAN BATOR)
NEW DELHI
KATHMANDU
THIMPHU
DHAKA
NAY PYI TAW
VIANGCHAN (VIENTIANE)
HA NOI
XINJIANG UYGUR ZIZHIQU
QINGHAI
GANSU
NINGXIA
SHAANXI
SICHUAN
CHONGQING
GUIZHOU
YUNNAN
GUANGXI ZHUANGZU ZIZHIQU
HAINAN
Tarim Pendi
Taklimakan Shamo
Kunlun Shan
Altun Shan
Tien Shan
Altai Mountains
Qingzang Gaoyuan (Plateau of Tibet)
HIMALAYAS
Saryarka
Zapadnyy Sayan
Eastern Sayans
Hangayn Nuruu
Govi Altayn Nuruu
GOBI
Qilian Shan
Bay of Bengal
Gulf of Tonkin
Ozero Baykal
Ozero Balkhash
Novosibirsk
Omsk
Krasnoyarsk
Irkutsk
Barnaul
Novokuznetsk
Almaty
Ürümqi
Lhasa
Lanzhou
Xining
Xi'an
Chengdu
Chongqing
Kunming
Guiyang
Nanning
Baotou
Yinchuan
Mandalay
Yangon (Rangoon)
Kolkata
Patna
Lucknow
Kanpur
Agra
Jaipur
Delhi
Srinagar
Lahore
Bhopal
Nagpur
Hyderabad
Visakhapatnam
Bhubaneshwar
Chittagong
Khulna
Guwahati
Haiphong
Vinh
Huê
Đa Năng
A B C D E F G
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:14,500,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Western China



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:7,750,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

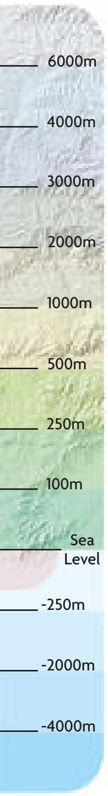
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Southeast China



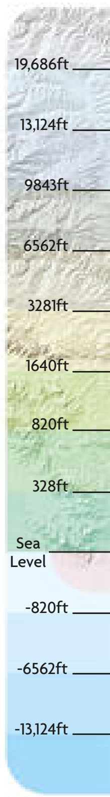


Scale 1:7,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

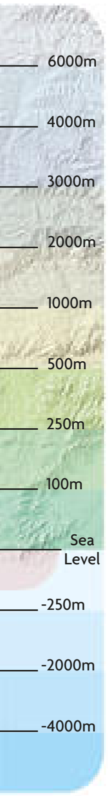
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Yangtze River Valley





ASIA

Scale 1:3,750,000

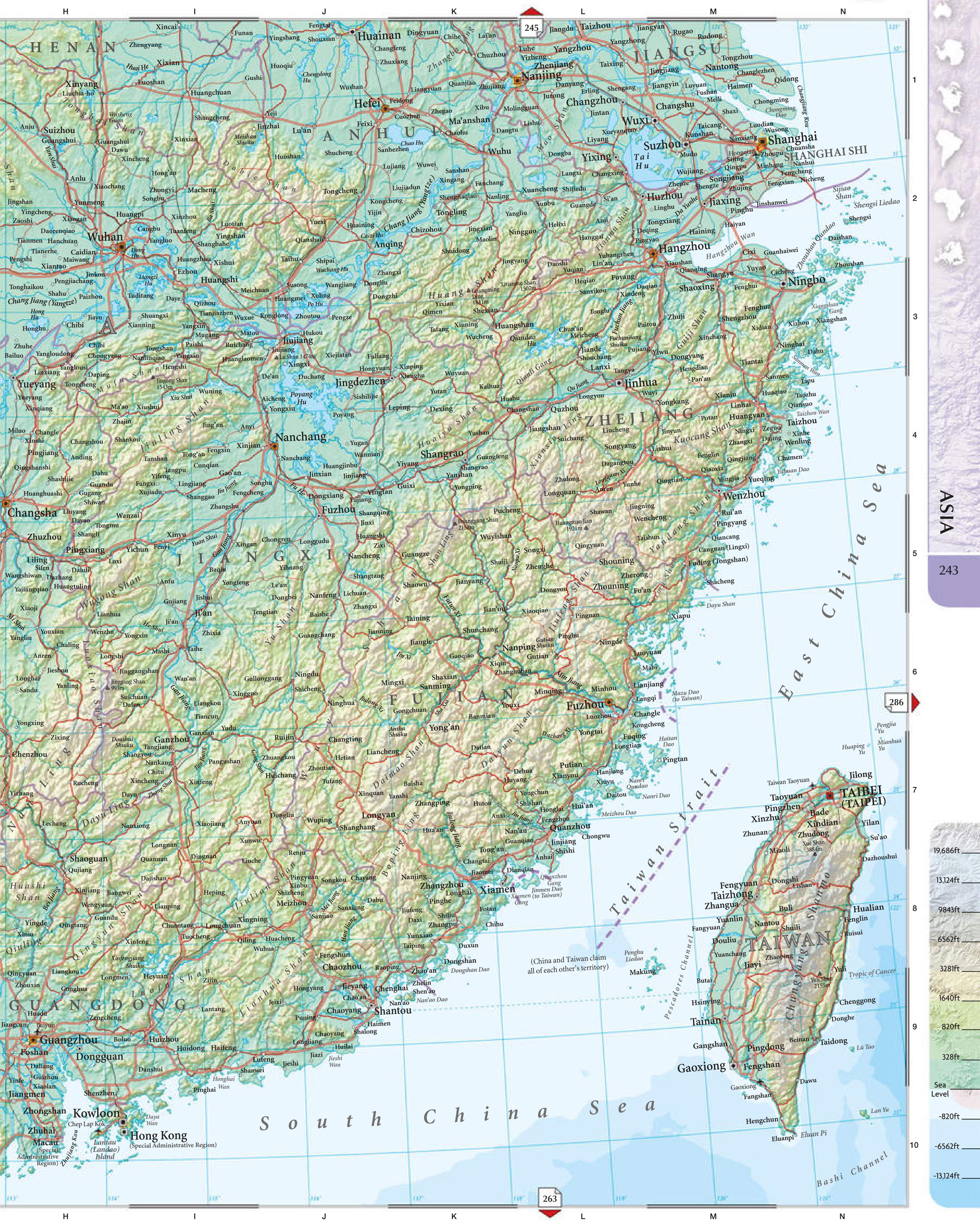
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km

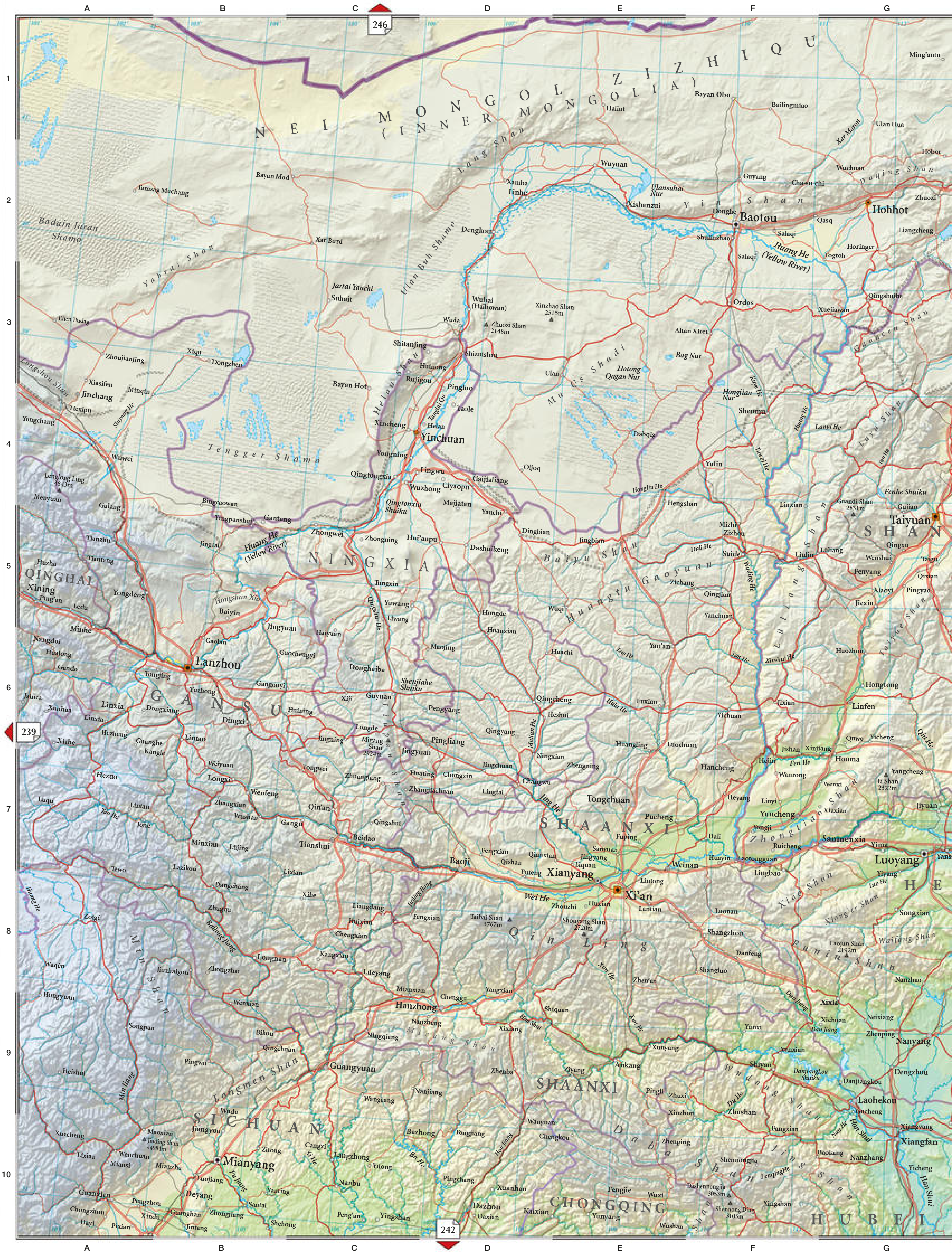
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

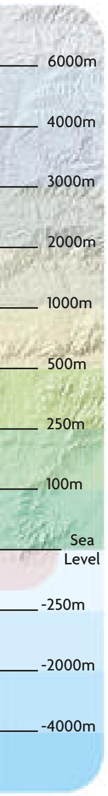
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Yellow River Valley

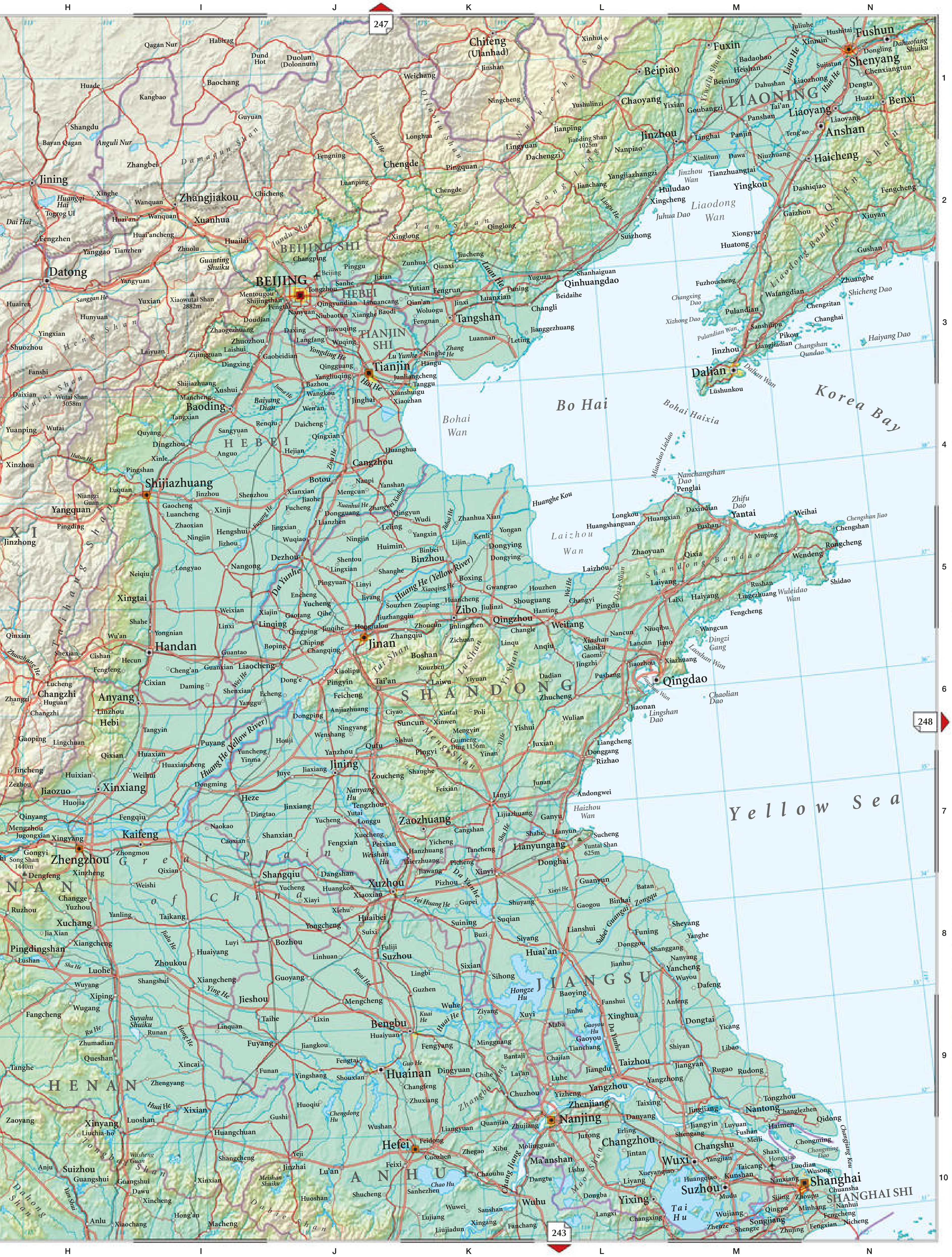




Scale 1:3,750,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Population
above 5 million
1 million to 5 million
500,000 to 1 million
100,000 to 500,000
50,000 to 100,000
10,000 to 50,000
below 10,000

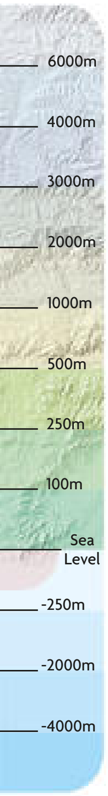


19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

ASIA

Northeast China





Scale 1:6,250,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Korea & Japan



A
B
C
D
E
F
G
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
247
245
286
NEI MONGOL ZIZHIQU (INNER MONGOLIA)
CHINA
HEILONGJIANG
JILIN
LIAONING
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
PRIMORSKIY KRAY
NORTH KOREA
SOUTH KOREA
JAPAN
Changchun
Jilin
Siping
Liaoyuan
Mudanjiang
Jixi
Lake Khanka
Fuxin
Beipiao
Fushun
Shenyang
Liaoyang
Anshan
Benxi
Jinzhou
Haicheng
Yingkou
Dandong
Tonghua
Baishan
Yanji
Tumen
Hunchun
Ussuriysk
Vladivostok
Nakhodka
Artem
Liaodong Wan
Chŏngjin
Kimch'aek
Hamhŭng
Hŭngnam
Wŏnsan
P'YŎNGYANG
Sinŭiju
Namp'o
Sariwŏn
Haeju
Kaesŏng
Korea Bay
Tongjosŏn-man
Sea of Japan
(East Sea)
SEOUL (SOUL)
Incheon
Suwon
Uijeongbu
Chuncheon
Sokcho
Gangneung
Donghae
Samcheok
Ulleung-do
SEJONG CITY
Daejeon
Cheongju
Andong
Gunsan
Jeonju
Daegu
Pohang
Gyeongju
Ulsan
Gwangju
Mokpo
Suncheon
Yeosu
Masan
Busan
Yellow Sea
Jeju-haehyeop
Jeju
Jeju-do
Korea Strait
Tsushima
Oki-shotō
Shimonoseki
Kitakyushu
Fukuoka
Kurume
Saga
Nagasaki
Kumamoto
Kyushu
Miyazaki
Kagoshima
Oita
Beppu
Hiroshima
Kure
Ube
Yamaguchi
Matsue
Tottori
Izumo
Okayama
Kurashiki
Fukuyama
Himeji
Takamatsu
Tokushima
Matsuyama
Kōchi
Shikoku
Kōbe
Ōsaka
Sakai
Kyōto
Nara
Wakayama
Nagoya
Gifu
Fukui
Kanazawa
Toyama
Toyohashi
Hamamatsu
East China Sea
Philippine Sea



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:5,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

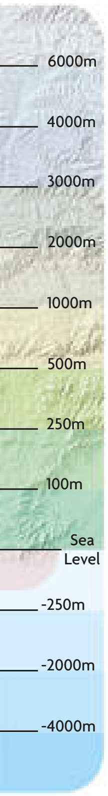
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Southern Japan





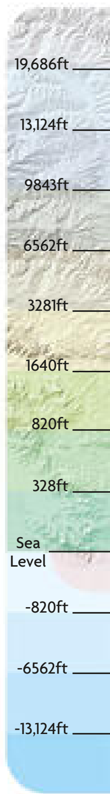
ASIA

Scale 1:2,500,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

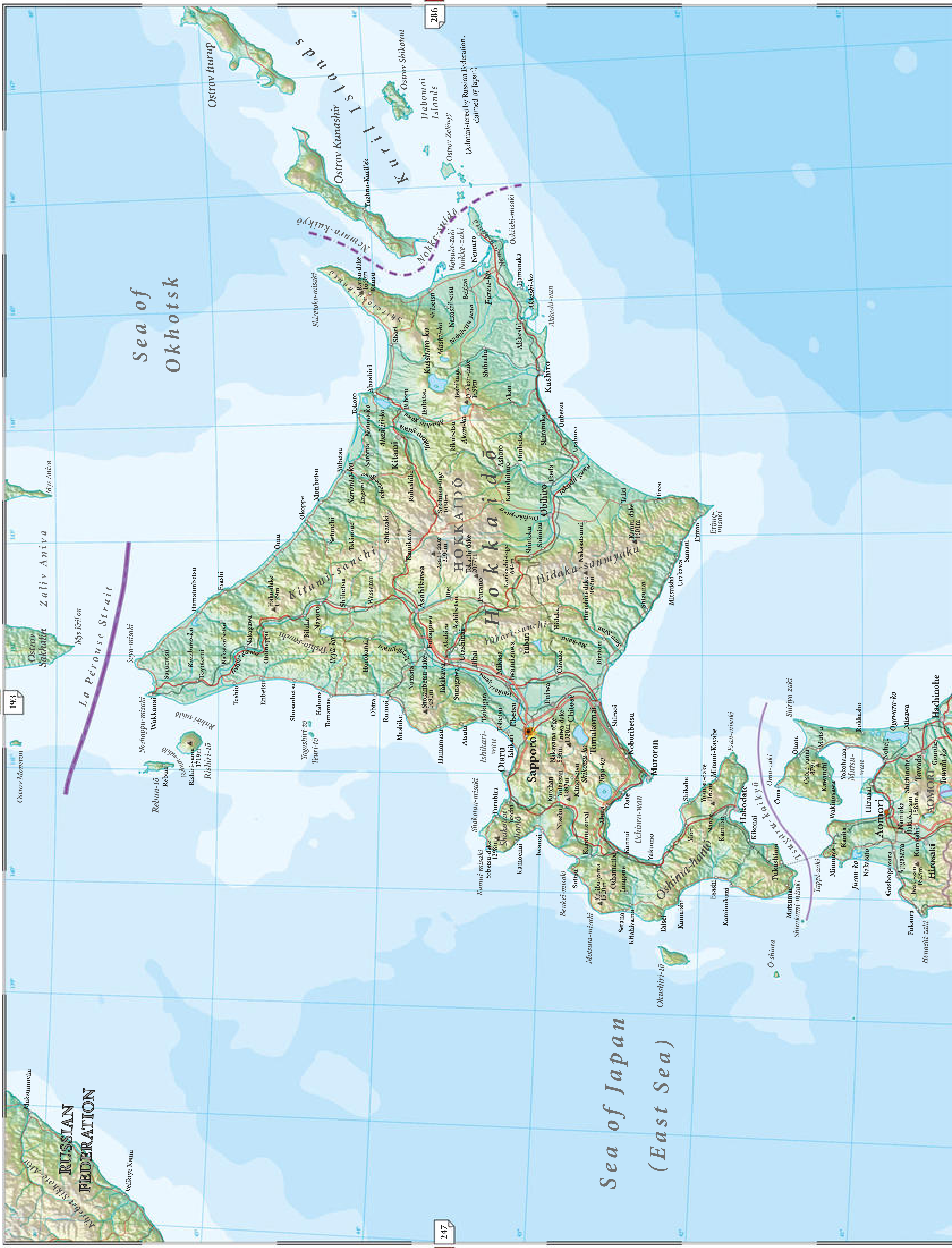
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

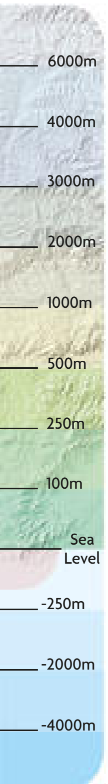




ASIA

Northern Japan



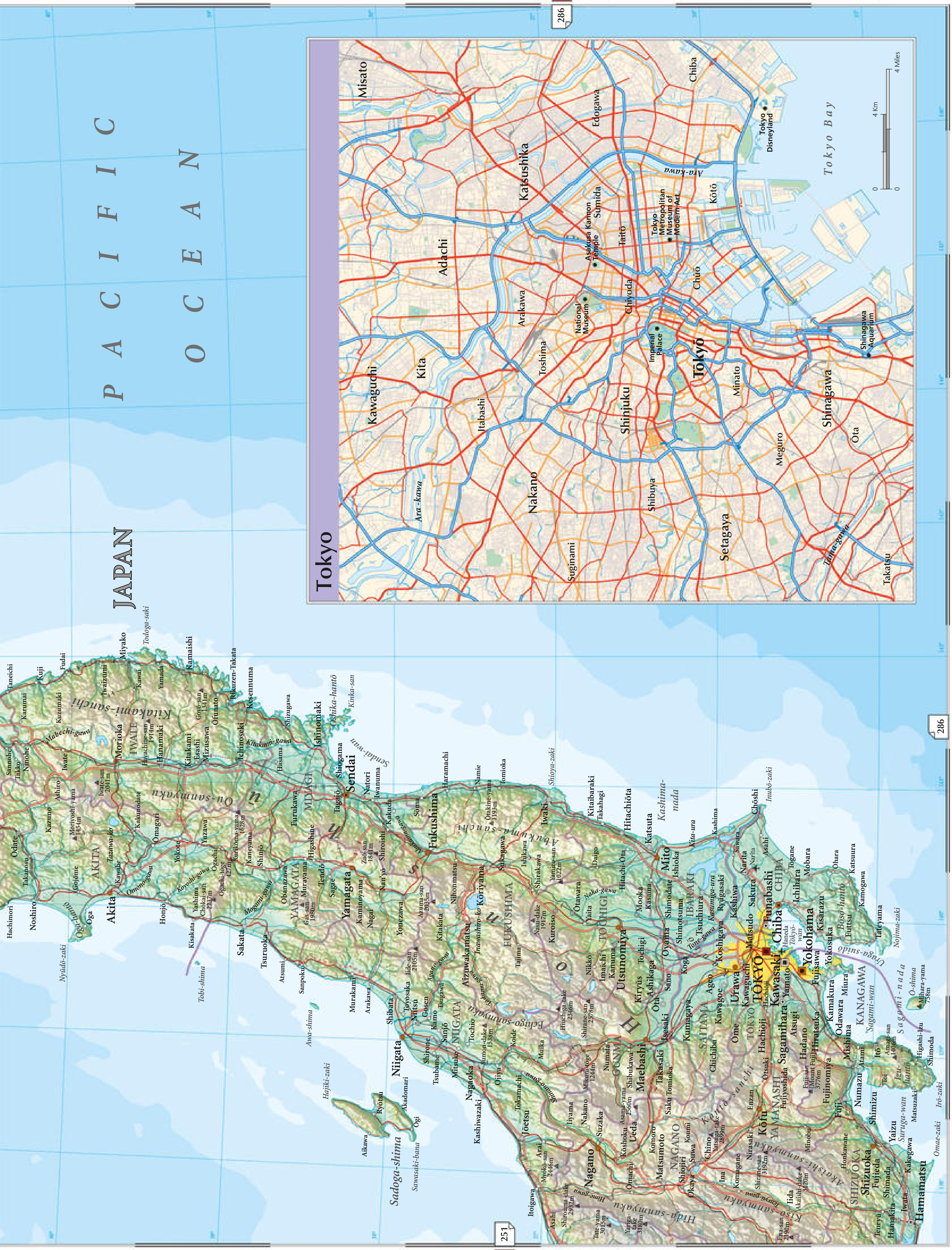


ASIA

Scale 1:2,500,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Km
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 Miles

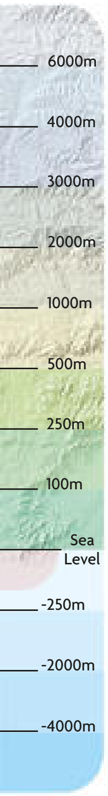
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





Southeast Asia





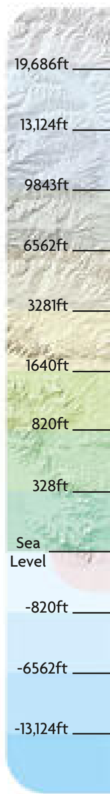
Scale 1:15,500,000
(projection: Mercator)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Miles

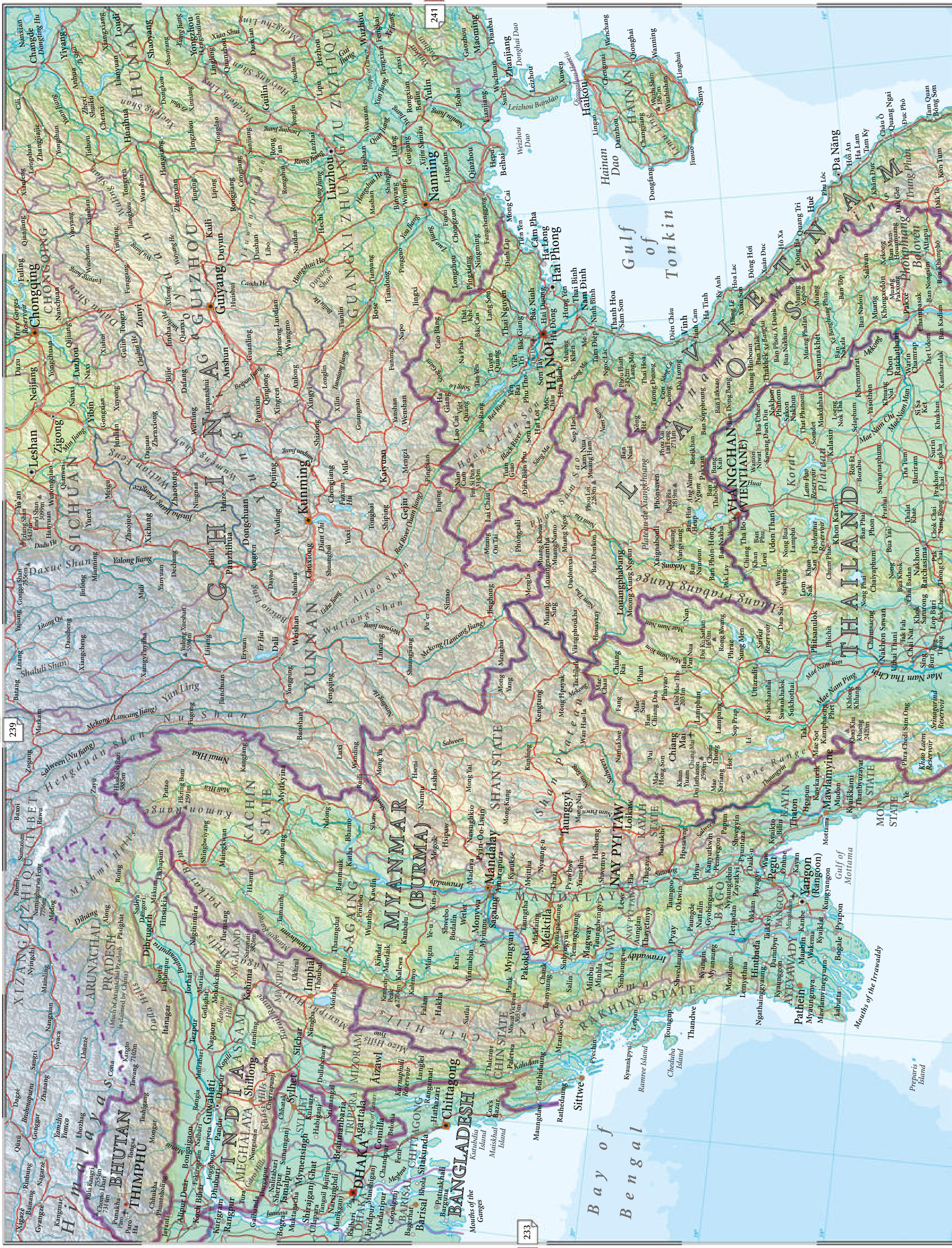
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000







Mainland Southeast Asia

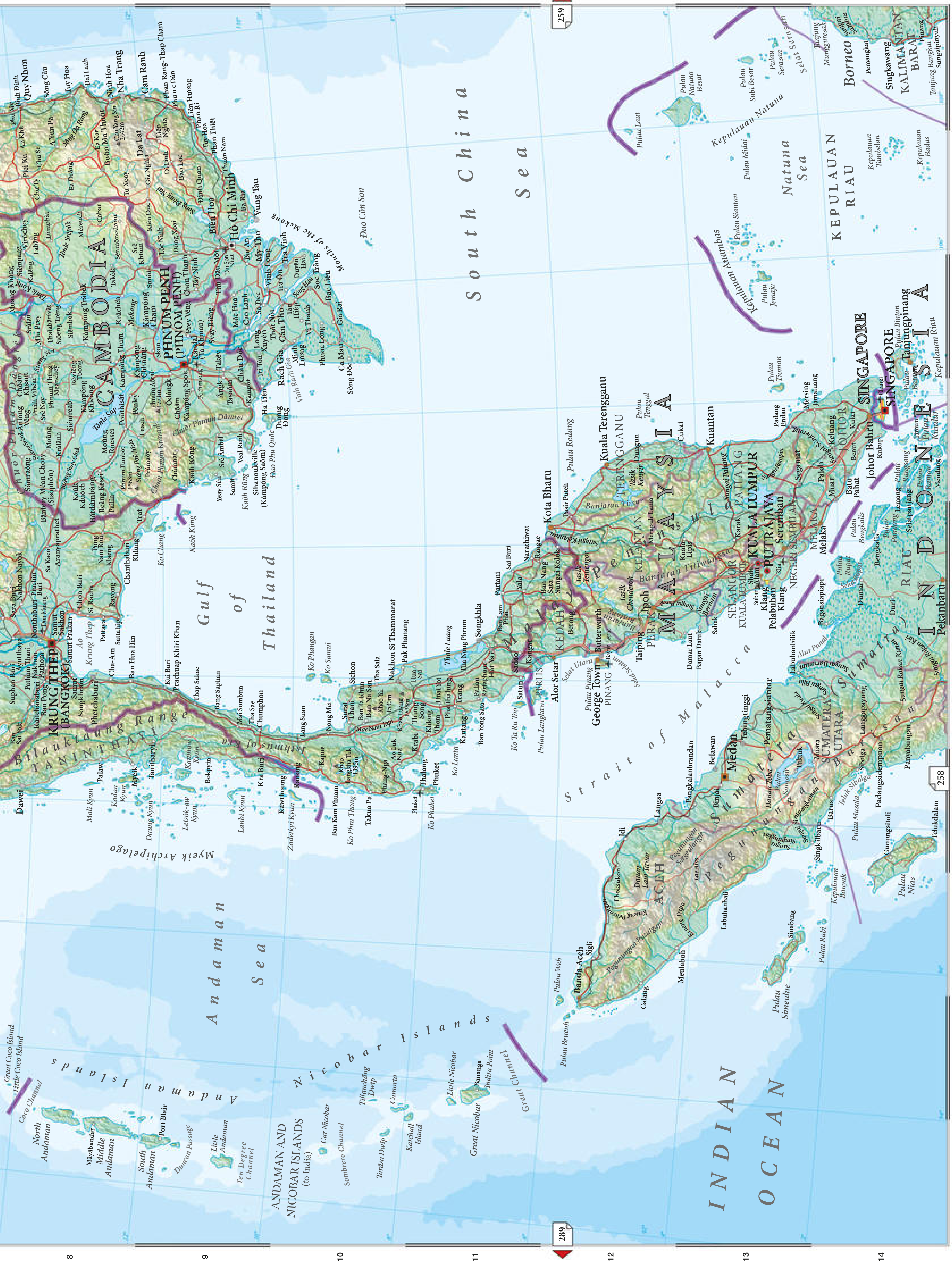


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:7,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

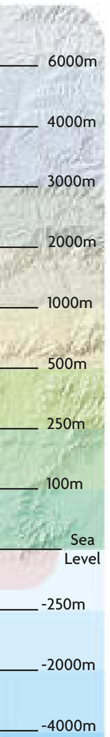
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Western Maritime Southeast Asia





Scale 1:7,000,000

(projection: Mercator)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

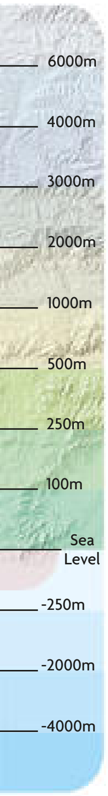
Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Eastern Maritime Southeast Asia





Scale 1:7,000,000
(projection: Mercator)

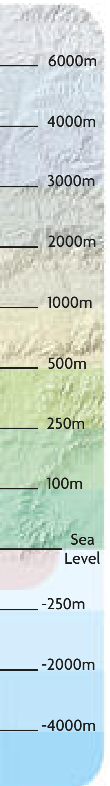
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



South China Sea & the Philippines

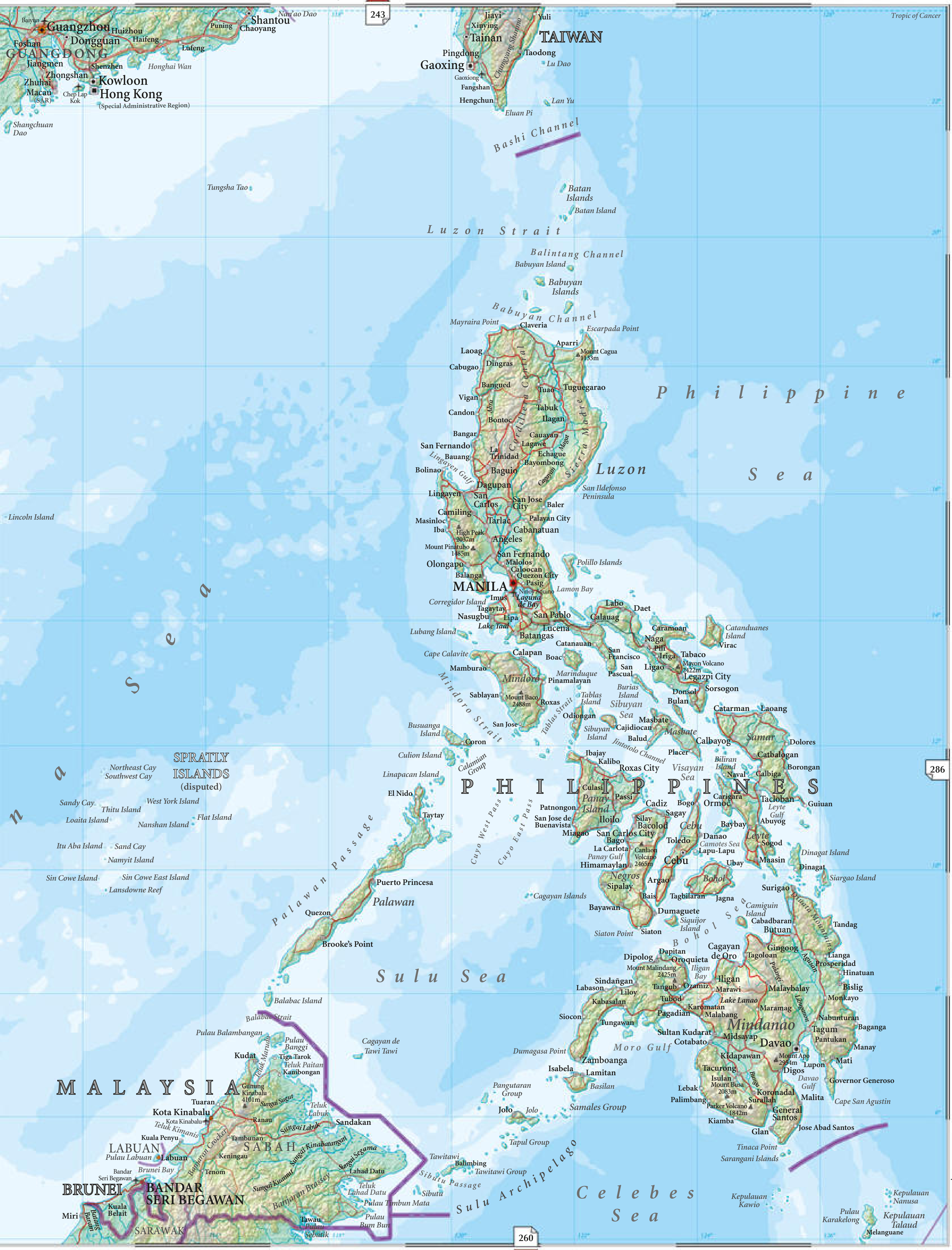




Scale 1:7,000,000
(projection: Mercator)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km
0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



ASIA – Cities

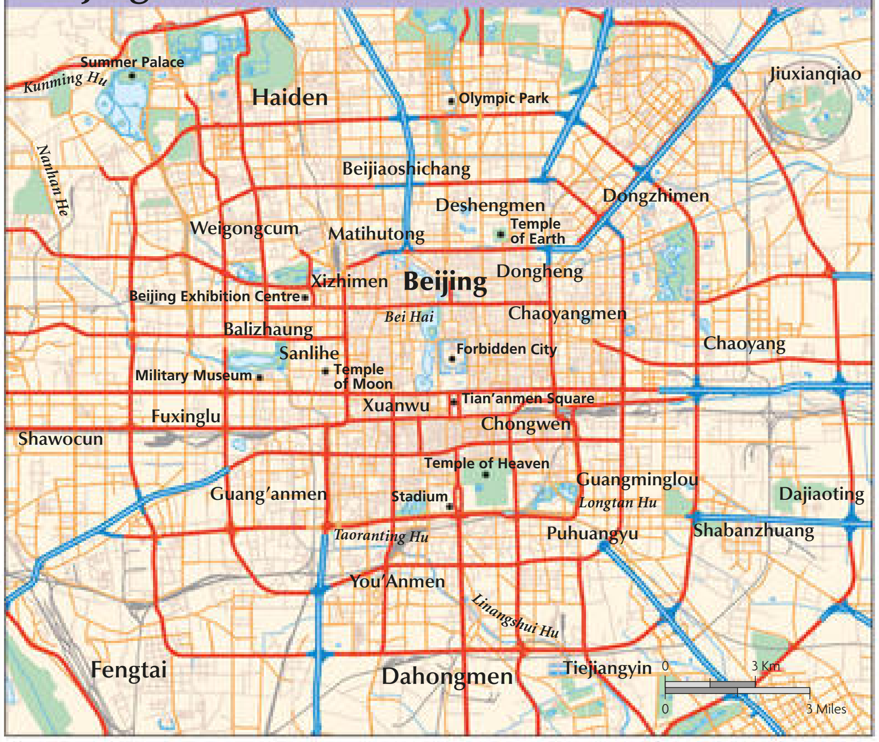
Baghdad



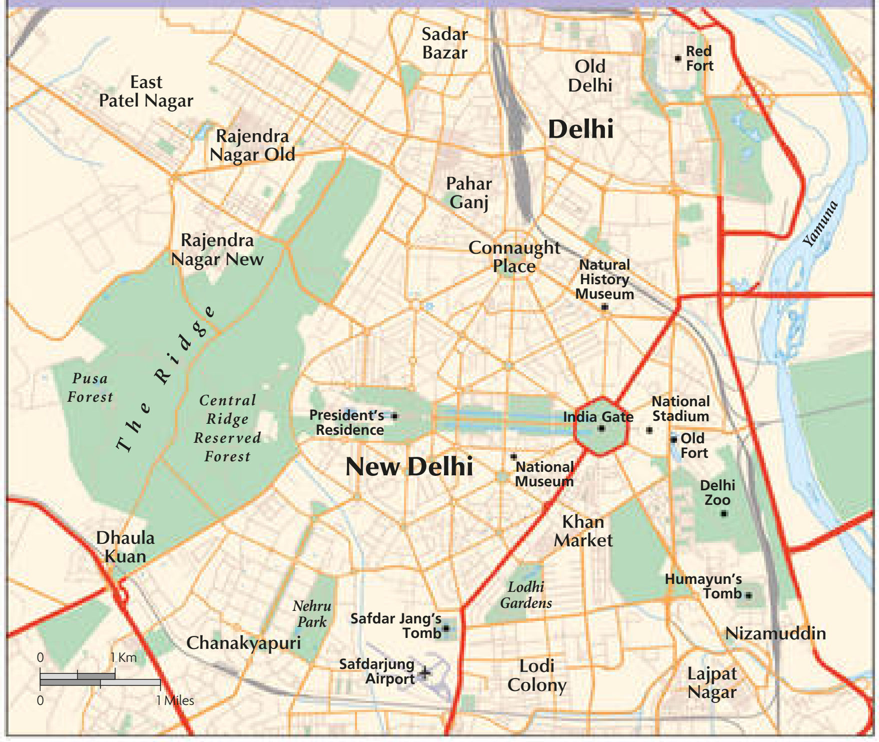
Bangkok



Beijing



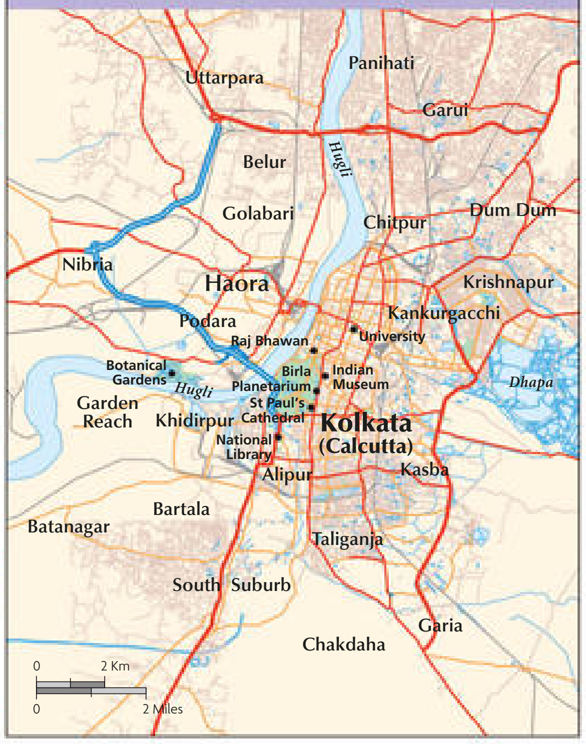
Delhi



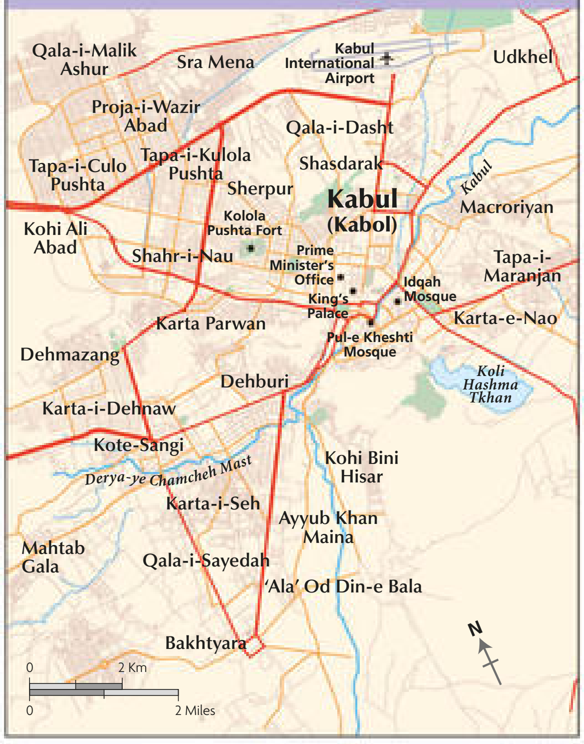
Dhaka



Kolkata



Kabul



Hong Kong



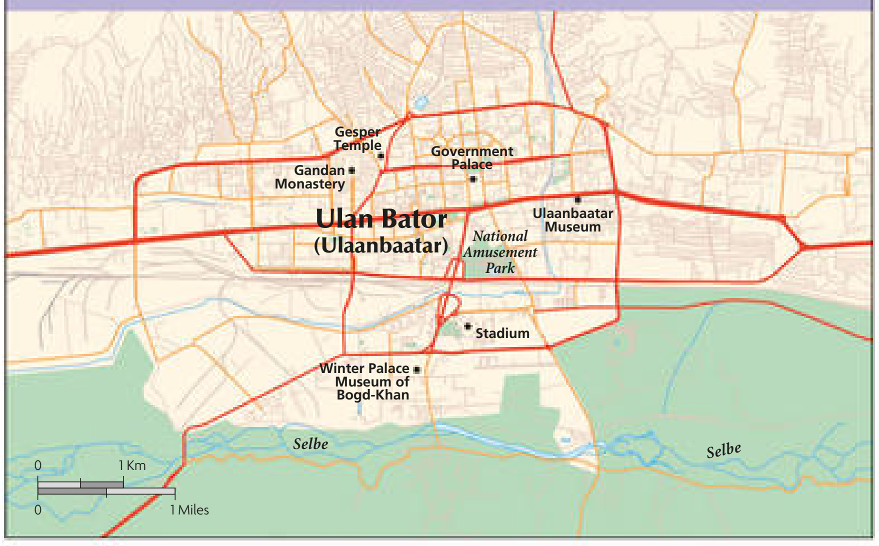
Istanbul



Kuala Lumpur



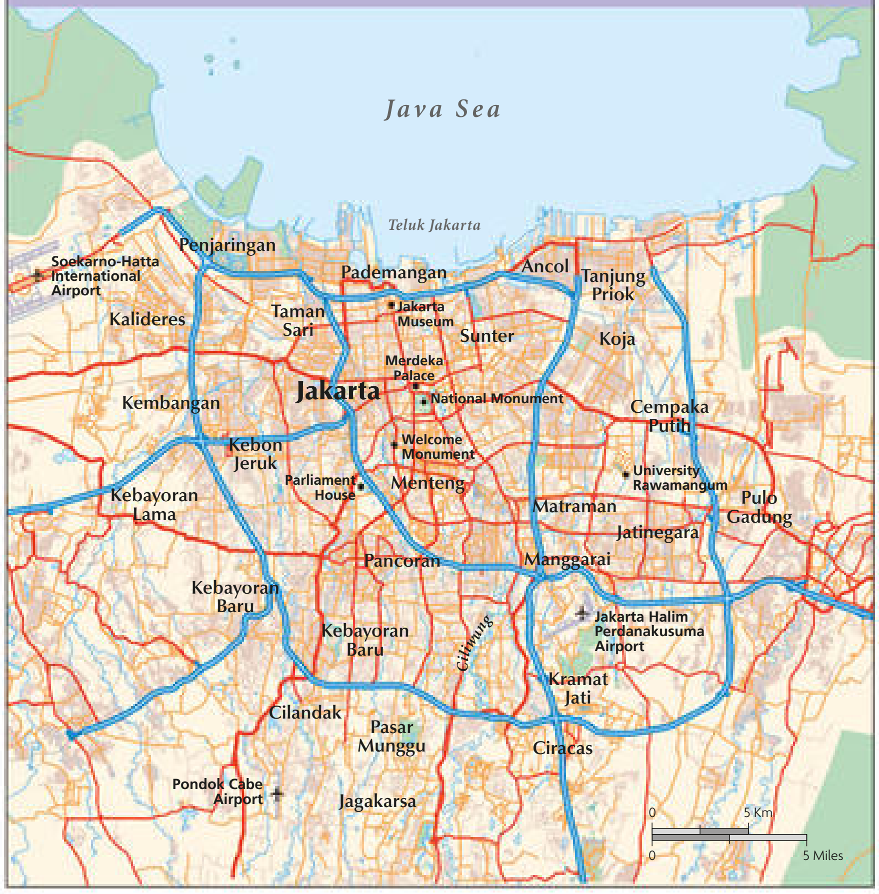
Ulan Bator



Islamabad



Jakarta



Manila



AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA

Australasia and Oceania with a total land area of 3,285,048 sq miles (8,508,238 sq km), takes in 14 countries including the continent of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and many island groups scattered across the Pacific Ocean.



FACTFILE

- **N Most Northerly Point:** Eastern Island, Midway Islands 28° 15′ N
- **S Most Southerly Point:** Macquarie Island, Australia 54° 30′ S
- **E Most Easterly Point:** Clipperton Island, 109° 12′ W
- **W Most Westerly Point:** Cape Inscription, Australia 112° 57′ E

Largest Lakes:

1. Lake Eyre, Australia 3430 sq miles (8884 sq km)
2. Lake Torrens, Australia 2200 sq miles (5698 sq km)
3. Lake Gairdner, Australia 1679 sq miles (4349 sq km)
4. Lake Mackay, Australia 1349 sq miles (3494 sq km)
5. Lake Argyle, Australia 800 sq miles (2072 sq km)

Longest Rivers:

1. Murray-Darling, Australia 2330 miles (3750 km)
2. Cooper Creek, Australia 880 miles (1420 km)
3. Warburton-Georgina, Australia 870 miles (1400 km)
4. Sepik, Indonesia/Papua New Guinea 700 miles (1126 km)
5. Fly, Indonesia/Papua New Guinea 652 miles (1050 km)

Largest Islands:

1. New Guinea, 312,000 sq miles (808,000 sq km)
2. South Island, New Zealand 56,308 sq miles (145,836 sq km)
3. North Island, New Zealand 43,082 sq miles (111,583 sq km)
4. Tasmania, Australia 24,911 sq miles (64,519 sq km)
5. New Britain, Papua New Guinea 13,570 sq miles (35,145 sq km)

Highest Points:

1. Mount Wilhelm, Papua New Guinea 14,793 ft (4509 m)
2. Mount Giluwe, Papua New Guinea 14,331 ft (4368 m)
3. Mount Herbert, Papua New Guinea 13,999 ft (4267 m)
4. Mount Bangeta, Papua New Guinea 13,520 ft (4121 m)
5. Mount Victoria, Papua New Guinea 13,360 ft (4072 m)

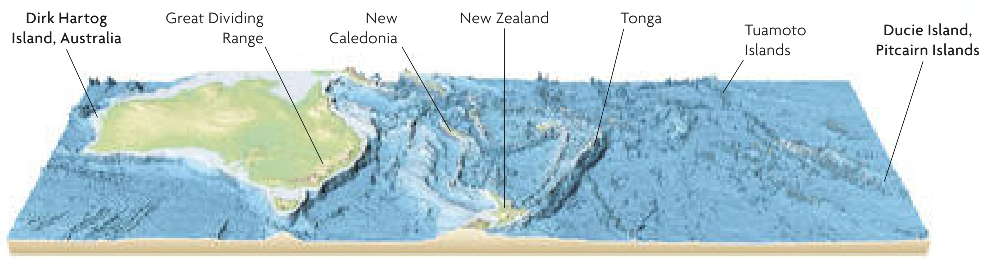
Lowest Point:
Lake Eyre, Australia -53 ft (-16 m) below sea level

Highest recorded temperature:
Bourke, Australia 128°F (53°C)

Lowest recorded temperature:
Canberra, Australia -8°F (-22°C)

Wettest Place:
Bellenden Ker, Australia 443 in (11,251 mm)

Driest Place:
Mulka Bore, Australia 4.05 in (102.8 mm)



Cross-section from Dirk Hartog Island, Australia to Ducie Island, Pitcairn Islands

line of cross-section

0 500 1000 1500 Km
0 500 1000 1500 Miles



AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA

AUSTRALASIA and OCEANIA – Political

Political

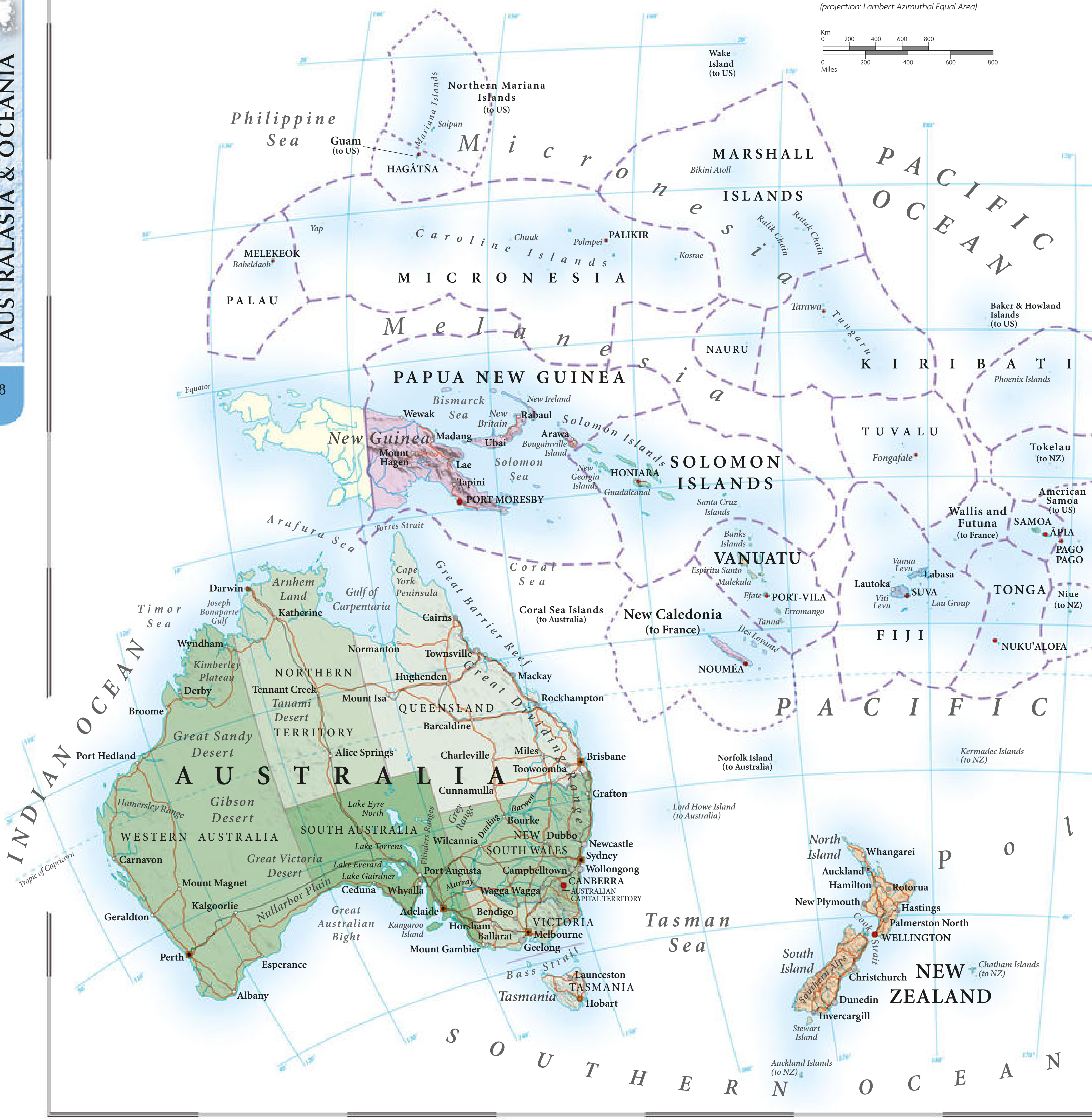
Vast expanses of ocean separate this geographically fragmented realm, characterized more by each country's isolation than by any political unity. Australia's and New Zealand's traditional ties with the United Kingdom, as members of the Commonwealth, are now being called into question as Australasian and Oceanian nations are increasingly looking to forge new relationships with neighboring Asian countries like Japan. External influences have featured strongly in the politics of the Pacific Islands; the various territories of Micronesia were largely under US control until the late 1980s, and France, New Zealand, the USA and the UK still have territories under colonial rule in Polynesia. Nuclear weapons-testing by Western superpowers was widespread during the Cold War period, but has now been discontinued.

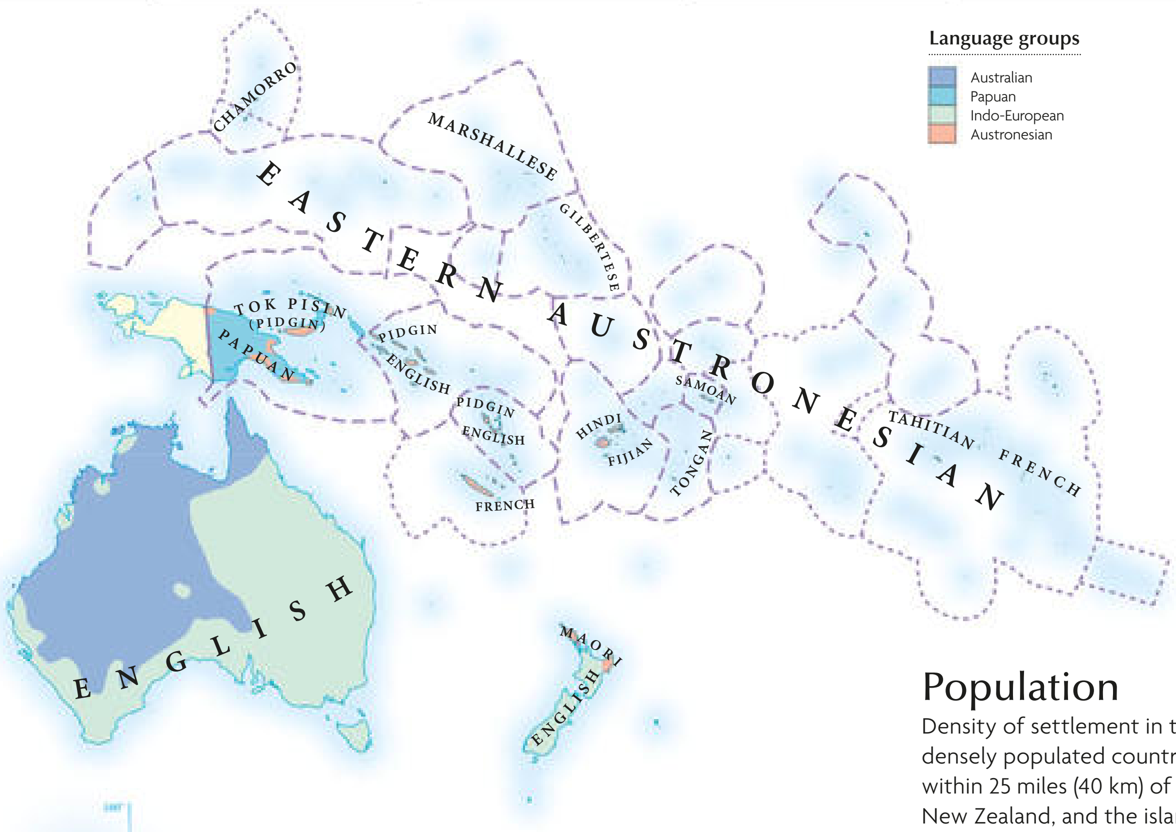
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000
- Country capital
- State capital

Borders
- full international border
- indication of maritime country extent
- indication of maritime dependent territory extent
- state border

Communications
- major roads
- major railroads

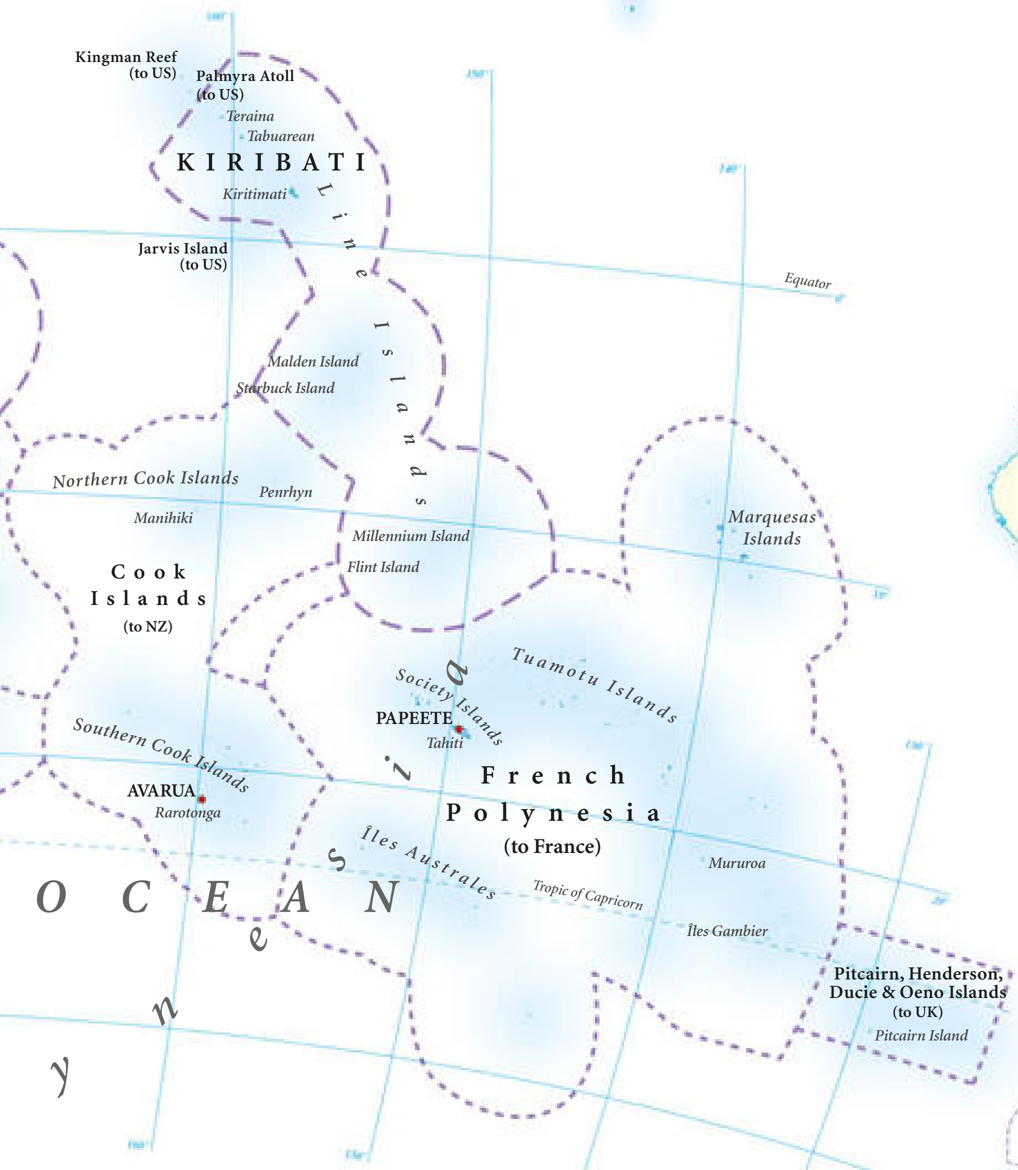
Scale 1:32,000,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)





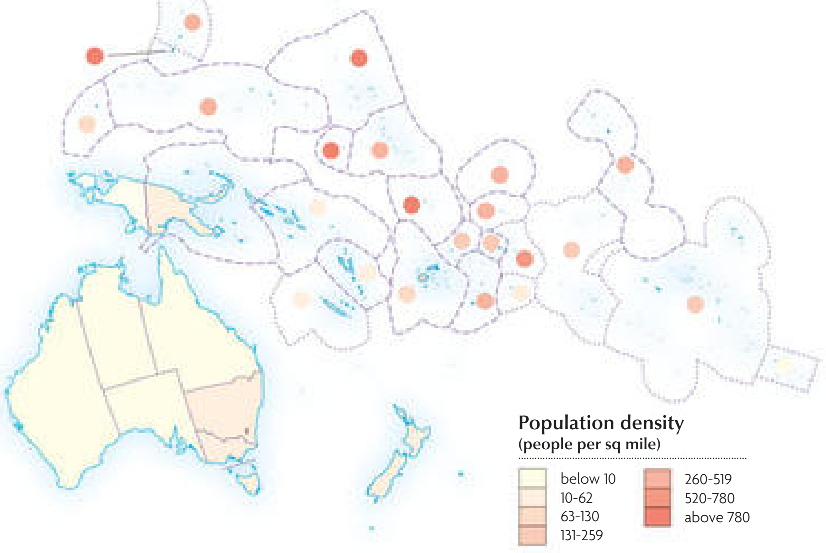
Languages

English is spoken throughout Australia and New Zealand. In Australia, English has been superimposed on a mosaic of Aboriginal languages. In New Zealand, the indigenous language, Maori, is the official language besides English. In Papua New Guinea, Melanesian Pidgin has become a *lingua franca* alongside several hundred indigenous languages. Across the region, the indigenous languages can be grouped into (1) the Aboriginal languages of Australia, (2) the Papuan languages spoken mostly inland in Papua New Guinea, and (3) the widely dispersed Austronesian, which includes coastal languages of Papua New Guinea, New Zealand Maori, and languages of Oceania.



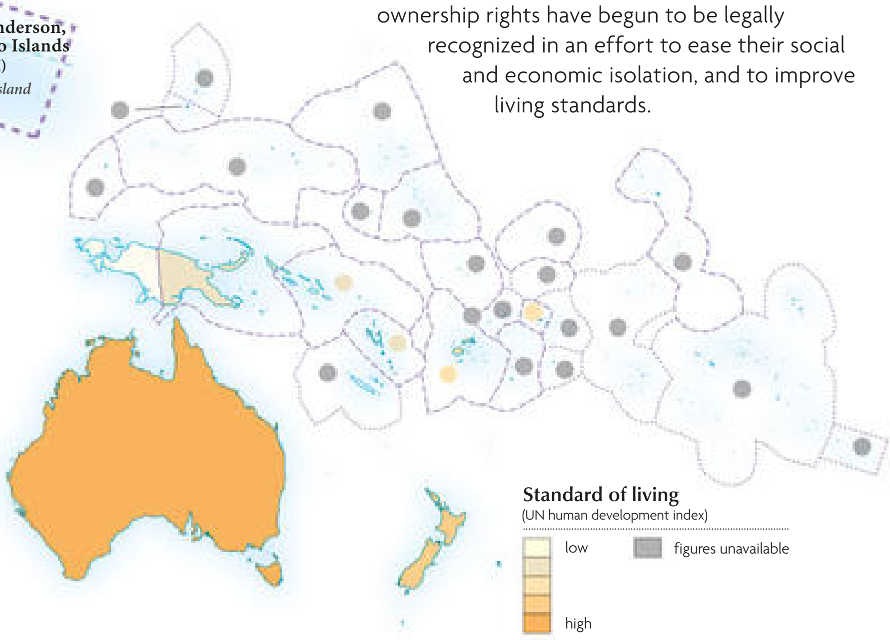
Population

Density of settlement in the region is generally low. Australia is one of the least densely populated countries on Earth with over 80% of its population living within 25 miles (40 km) of the coast – mostly in the southeast of the country. New Zealand, and the island groups of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia, are much more densely populated, although many of the smaller islands remain uninhabited.



Standard of living

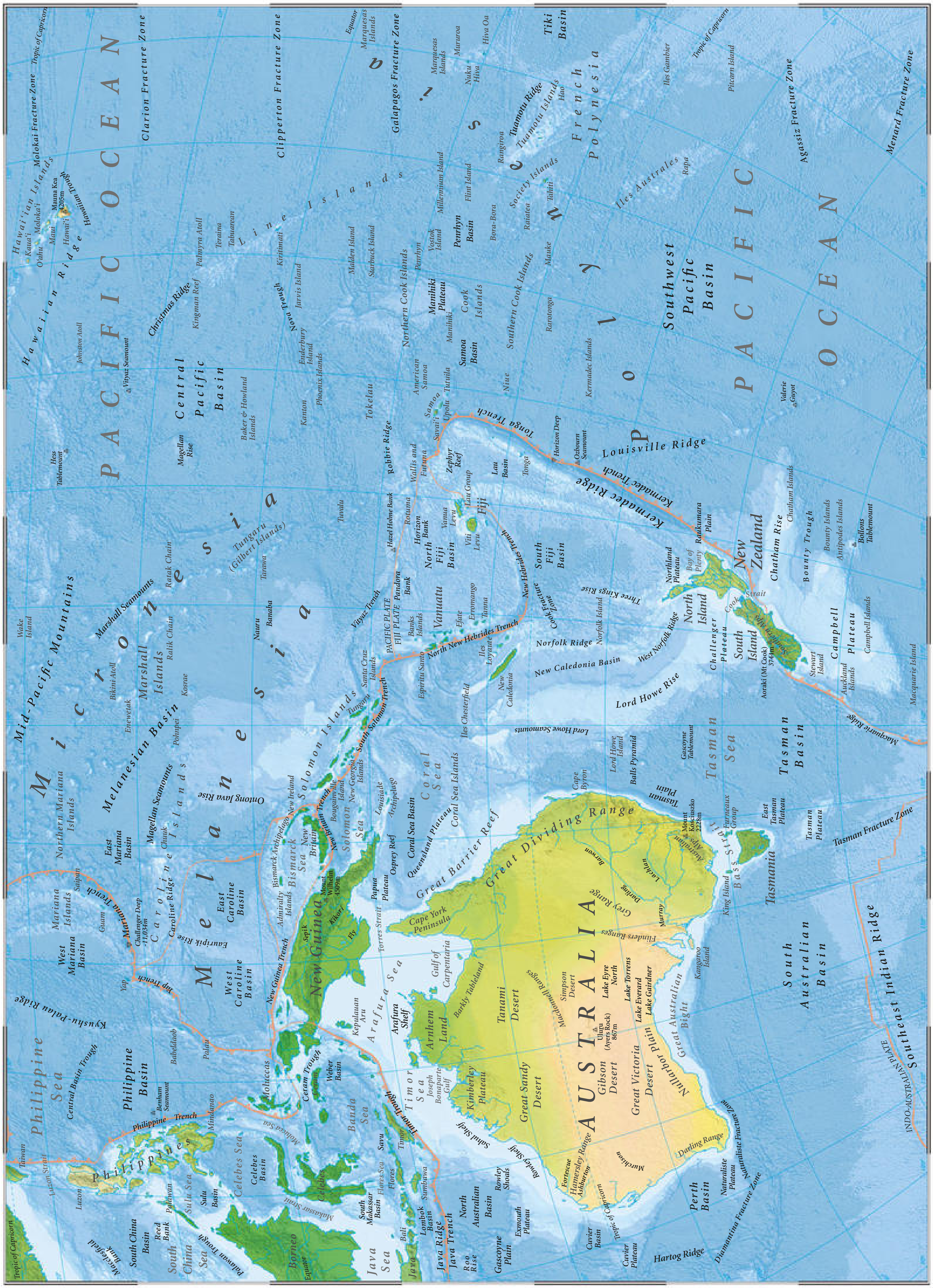
In marked contrast to its neighbor, Australia, with one of the world's highest life expectancies and standards of living, Papua New Guinea is one of the world's least developed countries. In addition, high population growth and urbanization rates throughout the Pacific islands contribute to overcrowding. The Aboriginal and Maori people of Australia and New Zealand have been isolated for many years. Recently, their traditional land ownership rights have begun to be legally recognized in an effort to ease their social and economic isolation, and to improve living standards.



Transportation

While sea travel remains of paramount importance throughout the continent, well-developed regional and international air travel has reduced the region's global isolation. Internal air travel is particularly important in Australia, where distances are great and road systems are poorly developed or in some areas nonexistent. Australia's rail system, still operating on three different guages, a legacy of its piecemeal development, is being upgraded, particularly in the north-south links.

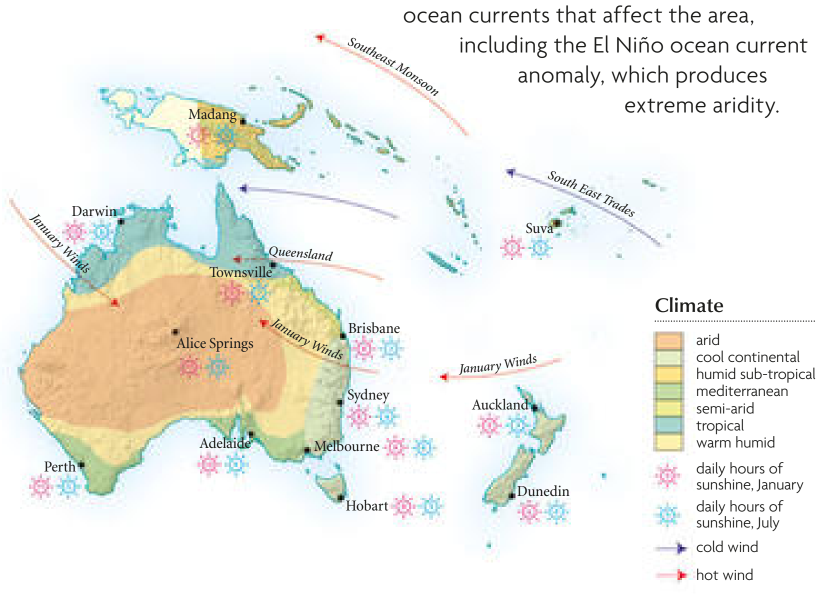
AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA – Physical

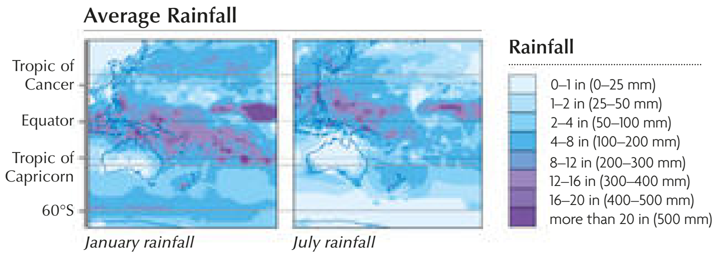


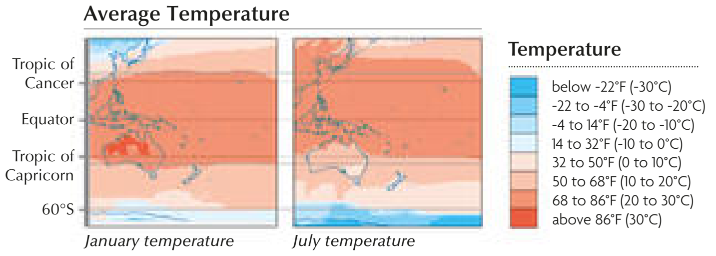
Scale 1:37,500,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

Climate

Surrounded by water, the climate of most areas is profoundly affected by the moderating effects of the oceans. Australia, however, is the exception. Its dry continental interior remains isolated from the ocean; temperatures soar during the day, and droughts are common. The coastal regions, where most people live, are cooler and wetter. The numerous islands scattered across the Pacific are generally hot and humid, subject to the different air circulation patterns and ocean currents that affect the area, including the El Niño ocean current anomaly, which produces extreme aridity.

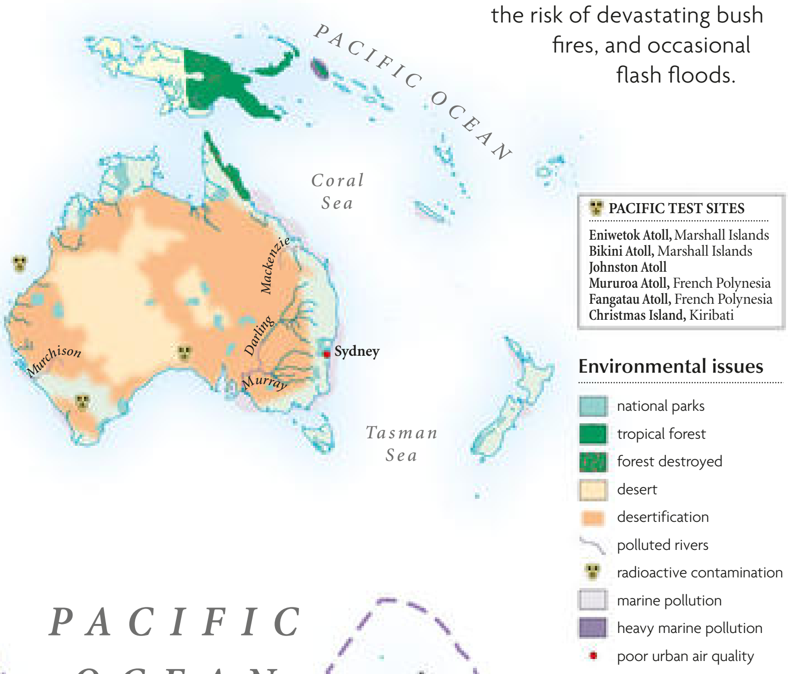






Environmental issues

The prospect of rising sea levels poses a threat to many low-lying islands in the Pacific. Nuclear weapons-testing, once common throughout the region, was finally discontinued in 1996. Australia's ecological balance has been irreversibly altered by the introduction of alien species. Although it has the world's largest underground water reserve, the Great Artesian Basin, the availability of fresh water in Australia remains critical. Periodic droughts combined with over-grazing lead to desertification and increase the risk of devastating bush fires, and occasional flash floods.



Land use

Much of the region's industry is resource-based: sheep farming for wool and meat in Australia and New Zealand; mining in Australia and Papua New Guinea and fishing throughout the Pacific islands. Manufacturing is mainly limited to the large coastal cities in Australia and New Zealand, like Sydney, Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, and Auckland, although small-scale enterprises operate in the Pacific islands, concentrating on processing of fish and foods. Tourism continues to provide revenue to the area—in Fiji it accounts for 15 percent of GNP.



AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA









1 MELVILLE ISLAND, NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUSTRALIA
Lying off Australia's north coast, the island is sparsely populated consisting of sandy soils and mangrove swamps.

2 ANATAHAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
The volcano on Anatahan is one of 12 in the Mariana Islands and erupted on a large scale in April 2005.

3 FLY RIVER, PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Flowing down from New Guinea's Central Range, the river carries a heavy load of sediment which it deposits in the Gulf of Papua, sometimes forming new islands.

4 RABAUL VOLCANO, NEW BRITAIN, PAPUA NEW GUINEA
After erupting in 1994, this image shows how the highest particles blew west causing condensation of water vapor over a wide area.

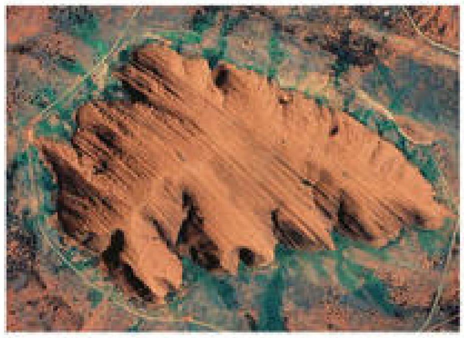


9 ULURU/AYERS ROCK, NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUSTRALIA
This enormous sandstone rock occupies Australia's heart, both physically and emotionally.

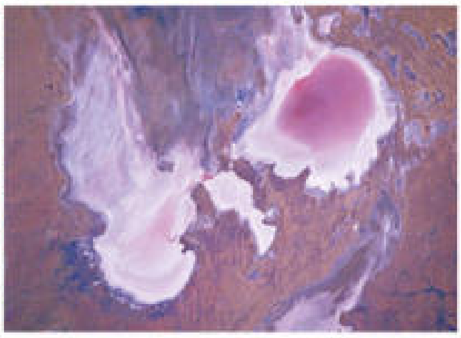
10 JAMES RANGES, NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUSTRALIA
A series of low ridges, these hills lie at the geographical center of Australia.

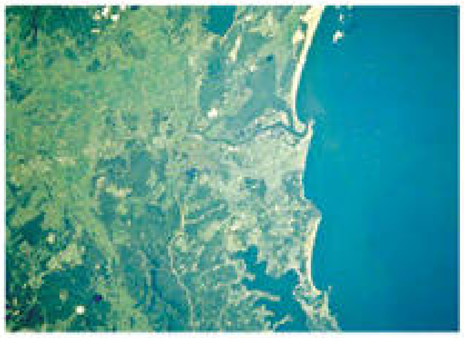
11 LAKE EYRE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA
This great salt lake consists of north and south sections, joined by a narrow channel, Lake Eyre South being the smaller, elongated saltflat at the bottom of the image.

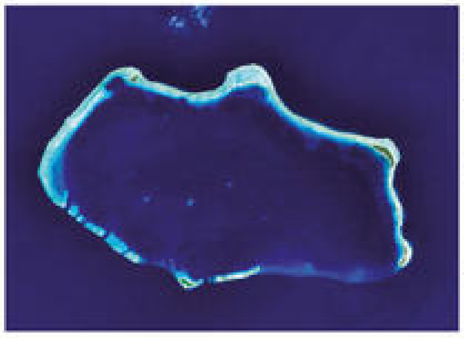
12 NEWCASTLE, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA
The industrial seaport of Newcastle lies on the south bank of Hunter river.











BIKINI ATOLL, MARSHALL ISLANDS 5

This atoll was the site of 23 atomic bomb tests in the 1940s and 1950s, involving the intentional sinking of at least 13 naval vessels in the shallow lagoon.



GREAT BARRIER REEF, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA 6

The world's largest reef system is made up of 3000 individual reefs and 900 islands and stretches for 1600 miles (2600 km).



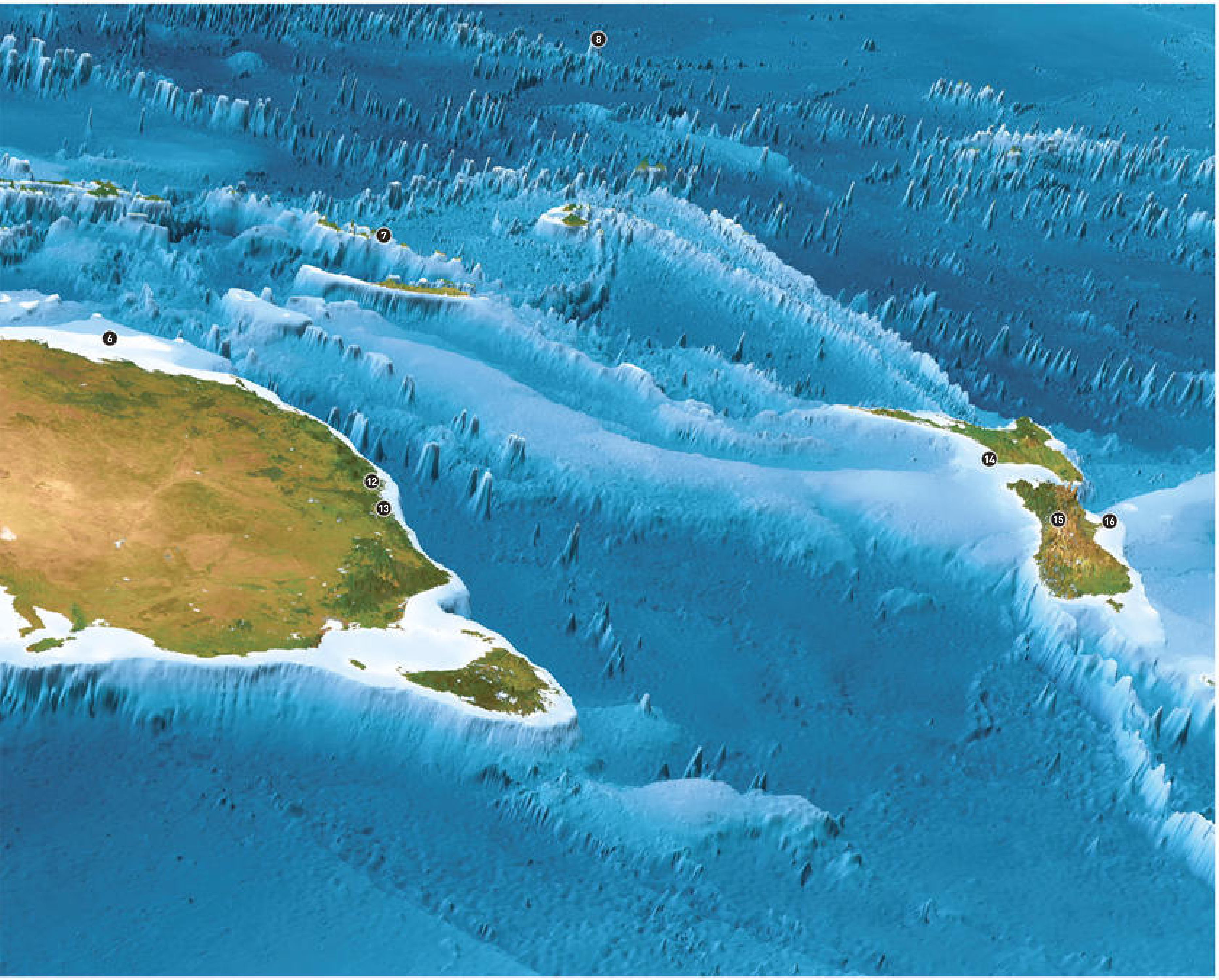
AMBRYM, VANUATU 7

Mount Marum, a 4166 ft (1270 m) volcano, erupted in April 2004 producing an extensive plume of ash.



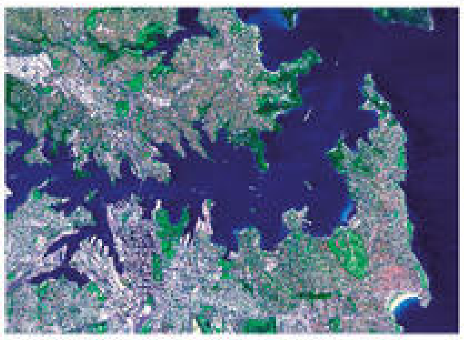
KIRITIMATI, KIRIBATI 8

Kiritimati is the largest atoll in the Pacific Ocean, its interior lagoon filled in with coral growth.



SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA 13

Expanding outward from the inlet of Port Jackson, Australia's largest city was founded in 1788.



MOUNT TARANAKI, NORTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND 14

This dormant 2518 m (8261 ft) volcano is one of the most symmetrical in the world.



AORAKI/MOUNT COOK, SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND 15

New Zealand's highest peak rises 12,238 ft (3744 m) and is surrounded by permanent ice fields.



BANKS PENINSULA, SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND 16

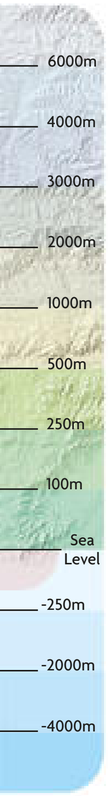
With a circular drainage pattern typical of eroded volcanoes, this is the only recognizably volcanic feature on New Zealand's South Island.



Australia



259
289
293
INDONESIA
EAST TIMOR
INDIAN OCEAN
Java Sea
Bali Sea (Laut Bali)
Savu Sea
Timor Sea
Nusa Tenggara (Lesser Sunda Islands)
Jawa (Java)
JAKARTA
Serang
Tangerang
Bogor
Sukabumi
Bandung
Cirebon
Brebes
Tegal
Pekalongan
Semarang
Purwodadi
Surabaya
Magelang
Surakarta
Yogyakarta
Madiun
Kediri
Malang
Jember
Probolinggo
Denpasar
Mataram
Pulau Lombok
Sumbawa
Raba
Ruteng
Flores
Endeh
Kupang
Pulau Sumba
Waikabubak
Waingapu
Baing
Pulau Roti
DILI
Suai
Manatuto
Kefamenanu
Kepulauan Alor
Kepulauan Tanimbar
Saumlaki
CHRISTMAS ISLAND (to Australia)
Tropic of Capricorn
Melville Island
Bathurst Island
Beagle Gulf
Darwin
Van Diemen Gulf
Jabiru
Katherine
Mataranka
Larrimah
Daly Waters
Joseph Bonaparte Gulf
Cape Londonderry
Cape Bougainville
Bonaparte Archipelago
Kalumburu
Wyndham
Kununurra
Timber Creek
Victoria River Roadhouse
Kimberley Plateau
King Leopold Ranges
Mount Ham 779m
Kupingarri
Lake Argyle
Turkey Creek
Top Springs Roadhouse
Kalkarindji
Sturt Plain
Adele Island
Collier Bay
King Sound
Lombadina
Derby
Broome
Fitzroy Crossing
Halls Creek
Mount Wells 970m
Tanami Desert
Rowley Shoals
Eighty Mile Beach
Great Sandy Desert
NORTHERN
Port Hedland
Dampier Archipelago
Wickham
Dampier
Karratha
Roebourne
Whim Creek
Marble Bar
De Grey River
Barrow Island
Fortescue River
Onslow
Exmouth Gulf
North West Cape
Exmouth
Learmonth
Coral Bay
Wittenoom
Hamersley Range
Tom Price
Paraburdoo
Mount Meharry 1251m
Newman
Ashburton River
Kenneth Range
Barlee Range
Mount Augustus 1105m
Waldburg Range
Minilya
Lake Macleod
Gascoyne River
Carnarvon
Gascoyne Junction
Bernier Island
Dorre Island
Shark Bay
Denham
Dirk Hartog Island
Steep Point
Kumarina Roadhouse
Carnarvon Range
Lake Gregory
Robinson Range
Wiluna
Lake Way
Meekatharra
Murchison River
Lake Annean
Lake Austin
Kalbarri
Yalgoo
Mount Magnet
Geraldton
Mongers Lake
Lake Barlee
Leonora
Lake Ballard
Menzies
Lake Moore
Lake Dora
Percival Lakes
Lake Auld
Tobin Lake
Lake Disappointment
Gibson Desert
Little Sandy Desert
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Lake Carnegie
Lake Wells
Warburton
Lake Throssell
Lake Yeo
Lake Carey
Great Victoria Desert
Lake Mackay
Lake Macdonald
Hopkins Lake
Lake Neale
Lake Amadeus
Yuendumu
Mount Liebig 1274m
Mount Zeil 1531m
Glen Helen
Hermannsburg
James Ranges
Yulara
Erldunda Roadhouse
Kata Tjuta (Mount Olga) 1069m
Uluru (Ayers Rock) 867m
Musgrave Ranges
Tomkinson Ranges
Mount Morris 1288m
Everard Ranges
Lake Maurice
SOUTH
Nullarbor Plain
Watson
Loongana
Rawlinna
Kitchener
Reid
Eucla
Bookabie
Madura
Cocklebiddy
Caiguna
Balladonia
Great Australian Bight
Lake Rebecca
Kalgoorlie
Coolgardie
Kambalda
Lake Lefroy
Lake Cowan
Norseman
Lake Dundas
Tower Peak 594m
Esperance
Ravensthorpe
Lake King
Lake Hope
Kondinin
Lake Johnston
Southern Cross
Merredin
Moora
Wubin
Pithara
The Pinnacles
Gingin
Wanneroo
Perth
Fremantle
Rockingham
Mandurah
Northam
York
Brookton
Darling Range
Narrogin
Wagin
Katanning
Collie
Bunbury
Busselton
Margaret River
Cape Leeuwin
Augusta
Bridgetown
Manjimup
Pemberton
Mount Barker
Stirling Range
Albany
Perth
Wembley Downs
Joondanna
Bayswater
Herdsman Lake
Lake Monger
North Perth
Swan River
City Beach
Jolimont
Art Gallery of Western Australia
Alderbury Park
Subiaco
Kings Park
Belmont Park
Redcliffe
Indian Ocean
Claremont
Zoo
South Perth
Carlisle
Kensington
Dalkeith
Cottesloe
Applecross
Manning
Cannington
Mosman Park
Canning River
Myaree
Fremantle
Partwood
Piney Lakes Reserve
Bull Creek
Hilton
Murdoch
3 Km
3 Miles



6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:13,000,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Miles

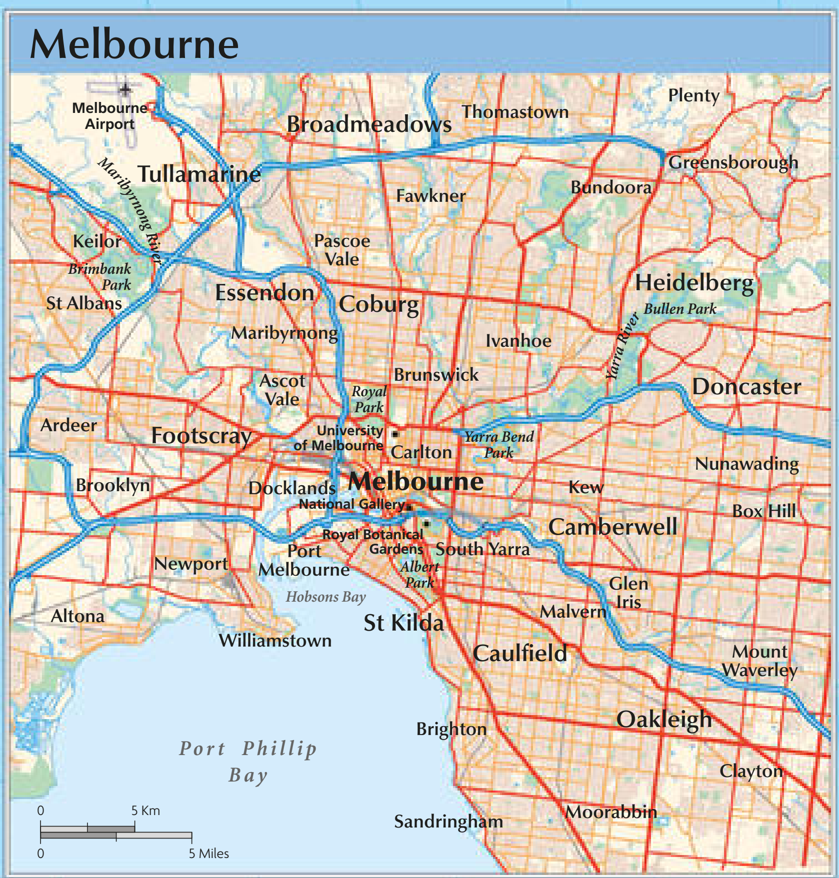
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

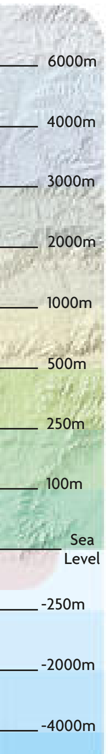
Southeast Australia







AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA



Scale 1:6,500,000

(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Km

0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



275

278

293

19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

New Zealand

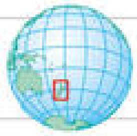


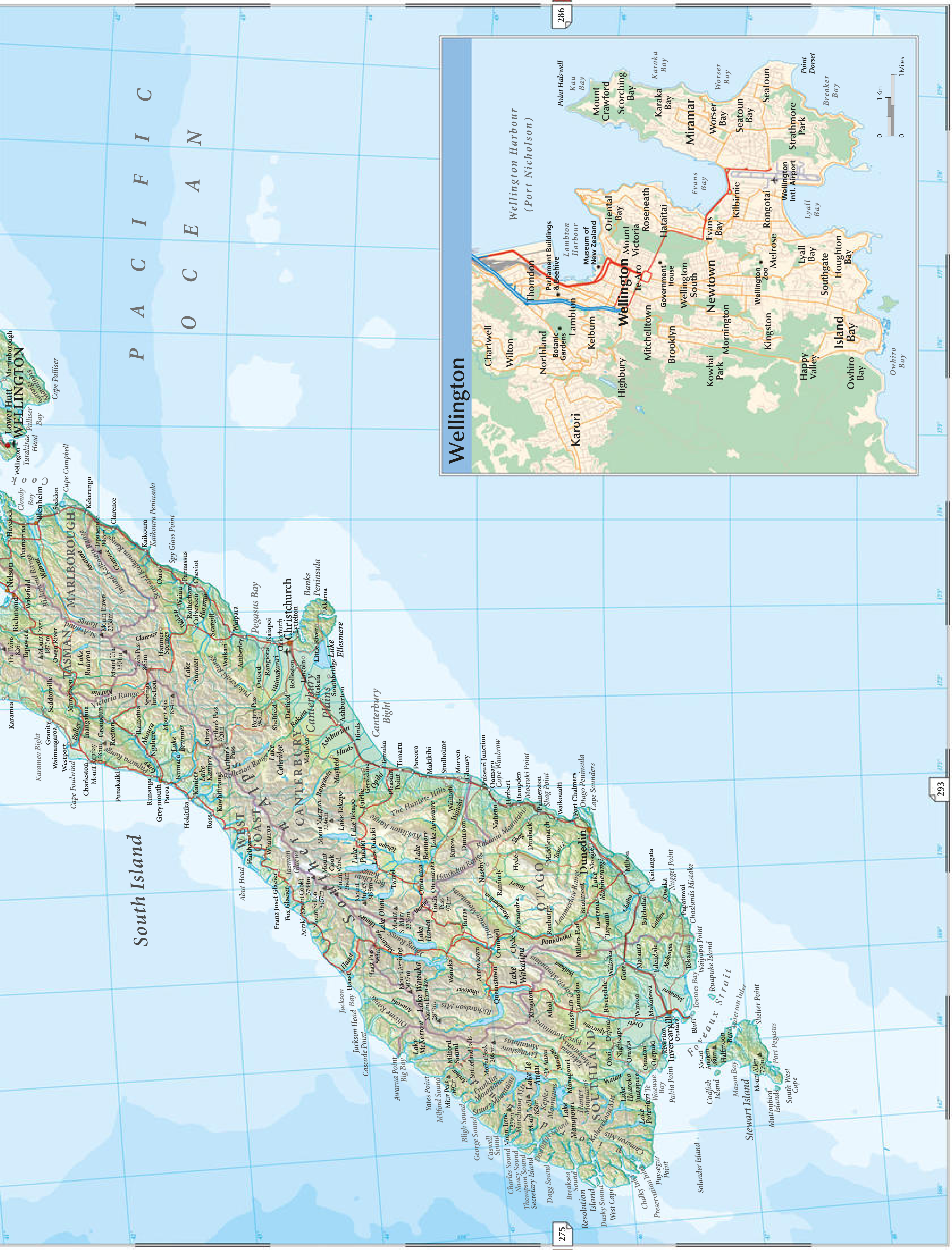
6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:3,200,000
(projection: Lambert Conformal Conic)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Km
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

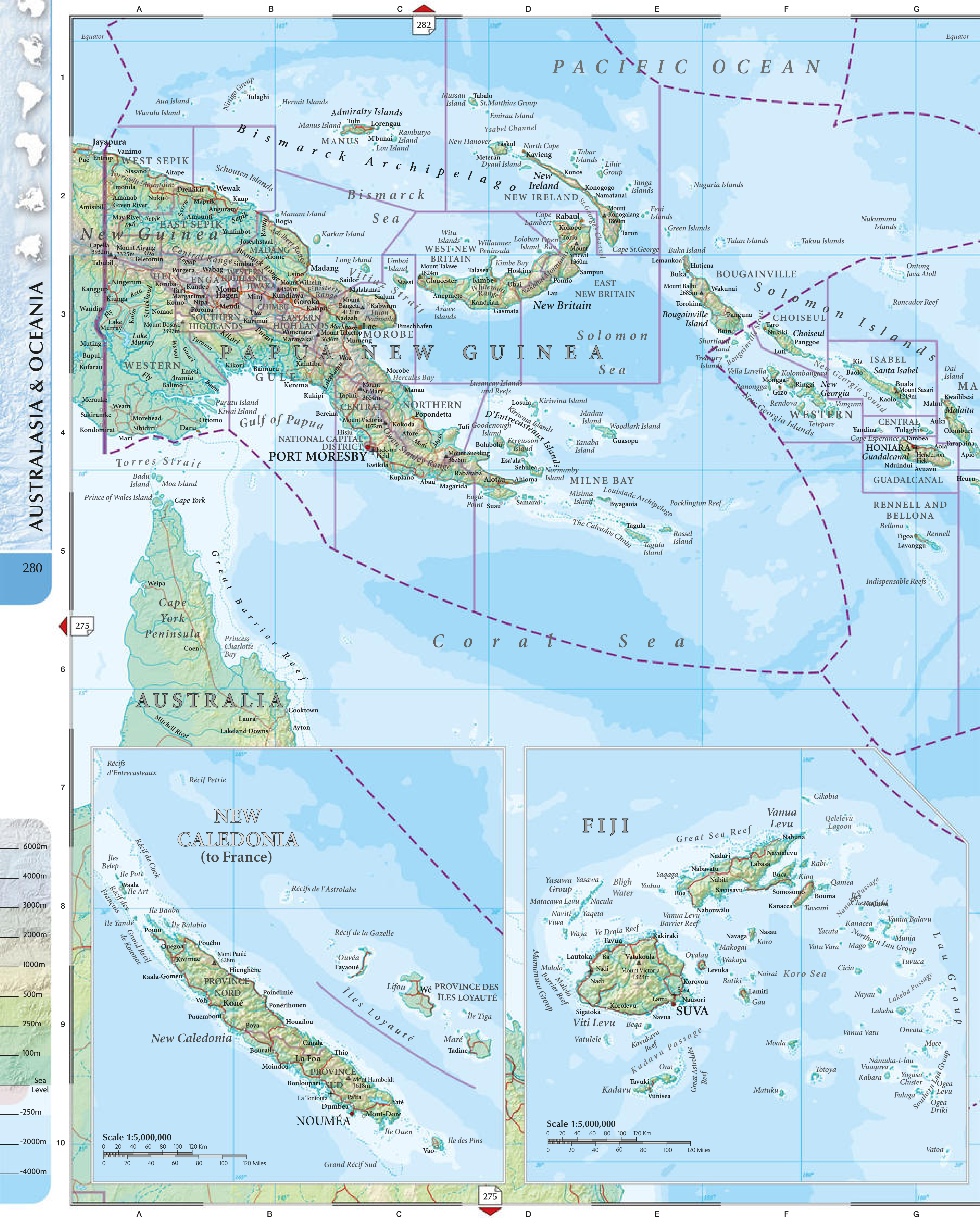
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Papua New Guinea & Melanesia



AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA

Scale 1:10,100,000
(projection: Mercator)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

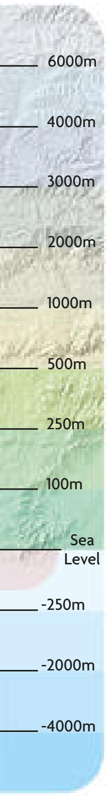


19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Micronesia



286
GUAM
(to US)
Ritidian Point
Uruno Point
Pati Point
Andersen Air Force Base
Yigo
Mount Santa Rosa
252m
Dededo
Tumon Bay
Agana Bay
Tamuning
Asan Point
Asan
Mongmong
Cabras Island
Apra Harbor
Piti
HAGÅTNA (AGANA)
Sinajana
Ordot
Barrigada
Orote Peninsula
Mount Tenjo
313m
Chalan Pago
Yona
Pago Bay
Agat Bay
Agat
Apra Heights
Santa Rita
Mount Lamlam
406m
Talofofo
Facpi Point
Talofofo Bay
Cetti Bay
Umatac Bay
Umatac
Mount Bolanos
379m
Mount Sasalaguan
337m
Merizo
Inarajan
Cocos Island
Aga Point
Philippine Sea
PACIFIC OCEAN
Scale 1:825,000
MICRONESIA
Philippine Sea
PACIFIC OCEAN
Rumung
Maap
Munguuy Bay
Yap
Wanyaan
Gagil Tamil
Tamil Harbor
Colonia
Kanifaay
Scale 1:825,000
Tropic of Cancer
Farallon de Pajaros
Supply Reef
Maug Islands
Asuncion Island
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
(to US)
Agrihan
Pagan
Alamagan
Guguan
Zealandia Bank
Sarigan
Anatahan
Farallon de Medinilla
Mariana Islands
Susupe
Saipan
Tinian
San Jose
Aguijan
Rota
HAGÅTÑA
(AGANA)
Guam
GUAM
(to US)
Philippine Sea
PACIFIC
Ulithi Atoll
Colonia
Yap
Fais
Caroline Islands
Gaferut
Faraulep Atoll
West Fayu Atoll
Pikelot
Magur Islands
Namonuito Atoll
Murilo Atoll
Fayu
Nomwin Atoll
Hall Islands
Ulul
Ngulu Atoll
Sorol
YAP
Olimarao Atoll
Lamotrek Atoll
Tarang Reef
Pulap Atoll
Puluwat Atoll
Manila Reef
Weno
Chuuk Islands
Nama
Neoch
Losap Atoll
Woleai Atoll
Ifalik Atoll
Elato Atoll
Satawal
Eauripik Atoll
Pulusuk
CHUUK
Ngcheangel
Oreor
Ulong
Mecherchar
Ngeaur
Babeldaob
MELEKEOK
Ngeruktabel
Beliliou
Palau Islands
PALAU
Sonsorol Islands
Pulo Anna
Merir
MICRONESIA
PALAU
Scale 1:750,000
Philippine Sea
Ngaregur
Ollei
Chol
Aiwokako Passage
Ngardmau Bay
Ulimang
Chelab
Ngetbong
Kgkeklau
Babeldaob
Ngermechau
Imeong
Namai Bay
West Passage
Ngerulmud (Capitol building)
Ibobang
MELEKEOK
Nghemiangel
Ngerkeai
Komebail Lagoon
Ngetkip
Arakabesan
Airai
Koror
Oreor
Oikuul
Namekakl Passage
PACIFIC OCEAN
PACIFIC
Equator
Pulau Waigeo
Jazirah Doberai
Pulau Misool
INDONESIA
Pulau Seram (Ceram)
Semenanjung Bomberai
Banda Sea
Kepulauan Aru
Pulau Kai Besar
MICRONESIA
PACIFIC OCEAN
Piis Moen
Lamoil
Falalu
Tora
North Pass
Tora Island Pass
Northeast Island
Ruo
Chuuk Islands
Falos
Quoi
Fono
Falledlef Pass
Weno
Romanum
Eot
Shiki Islands
Pata
Tol
Udot
Parem
Dublon
Lemotol Bay
Fanapanges
Etten
Piaanu Pass
Polle
Totiw
Fefan
Pisar
Shichiyo Islands
Tsis
Uman
Salat
Salat Pass
Ollan
South Pass
Otta Pass
Fanan
Otta
Uijec
Fenappi
Mesegon
Neoch
Lauvergne Island
Ipis
Scale 1:1,500,000
New Ireland
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
New Britain
261
263

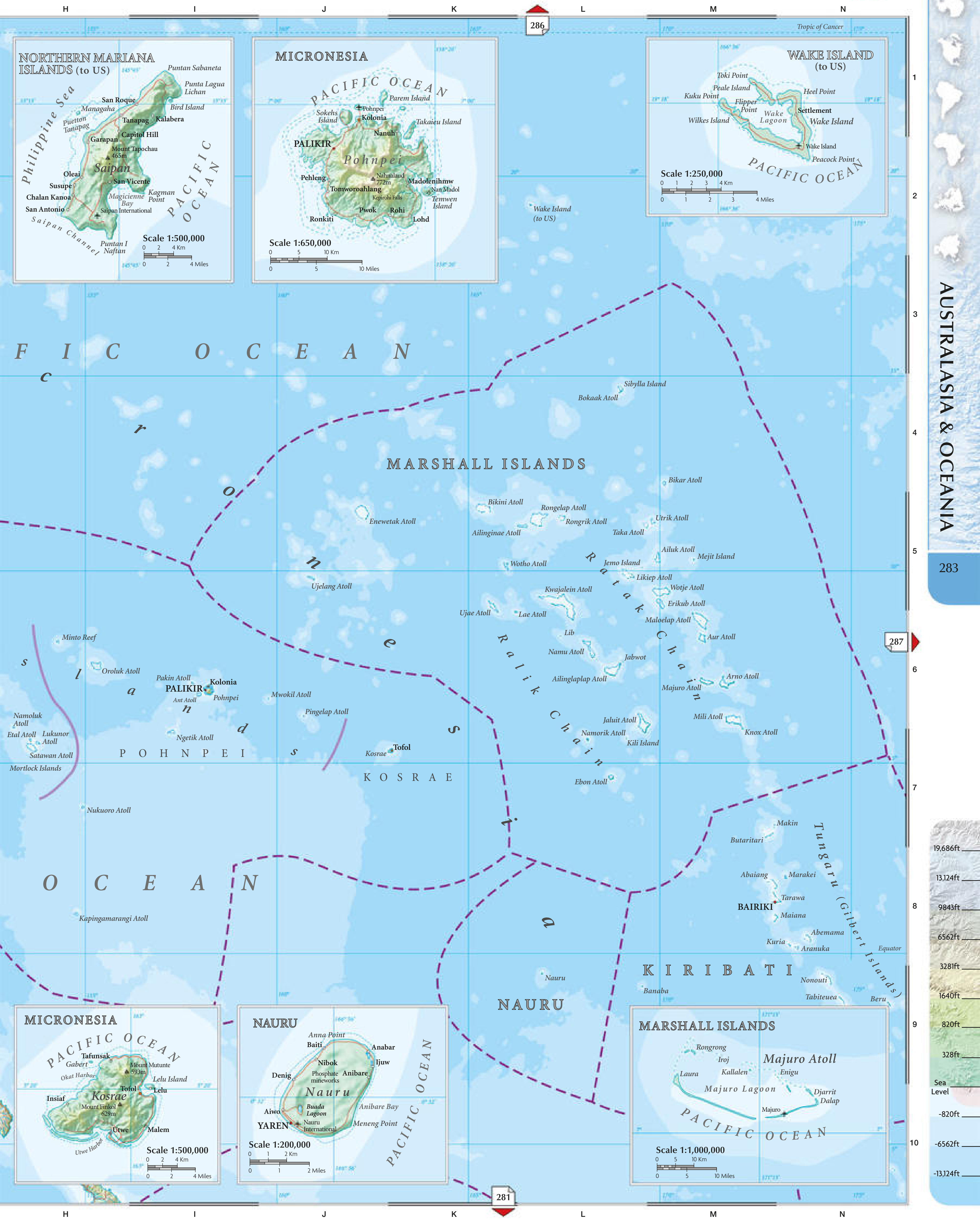


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

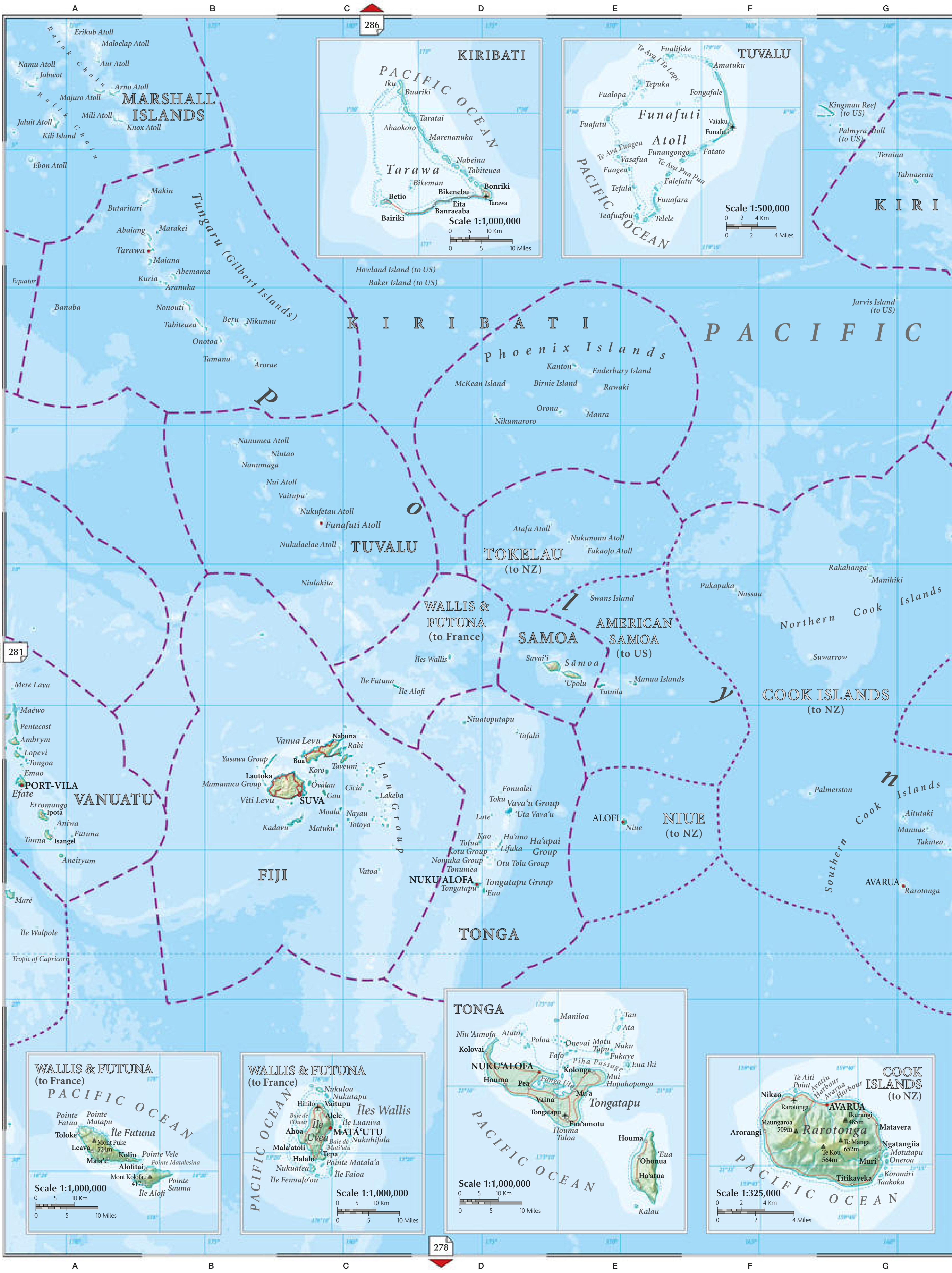
Scale 1:10,250,000
(projection: Mercator)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



Polynesia



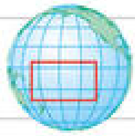


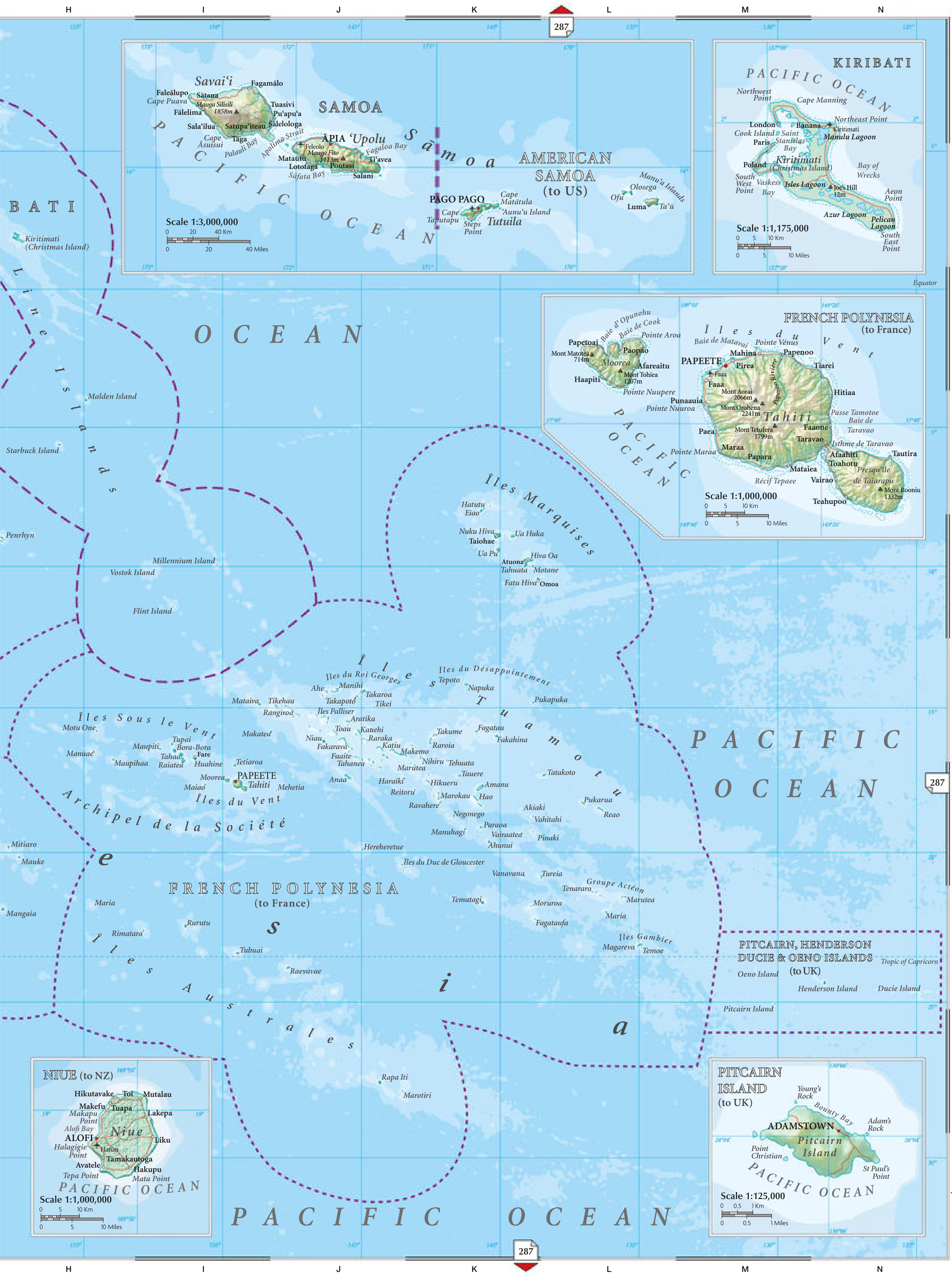
286
281
278

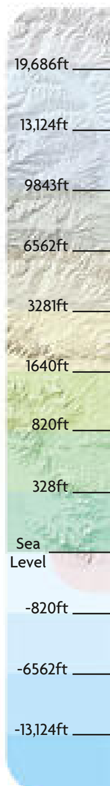
Scale 1:15,500,000
(projection: Mercator)

0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Km
0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 Miles

Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000

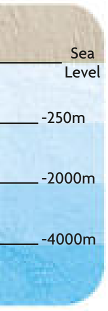






Pacific Ocean





Scale 1:62,500,000

(projection: Robinson)

0 500 1000 1500 2000 Km

0 500 1000 1500 2000 Miles



Sea Level

-820ft

-6562ft

-13,124ft

Indian Ocean



Scale 1:32,000,000

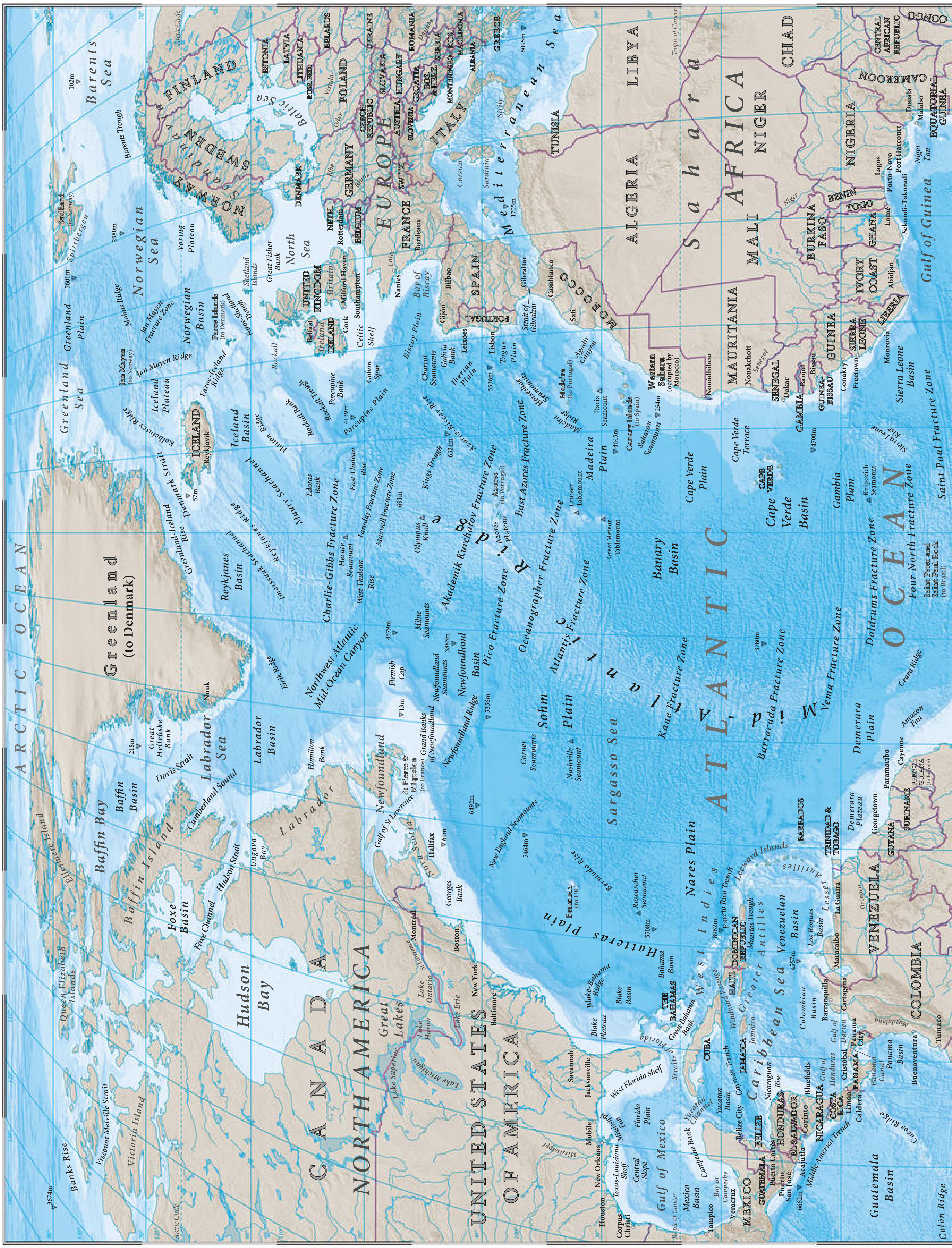
(projection: Robinson)

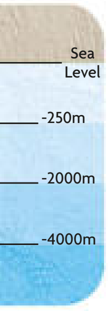
0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 Km

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 Miles



Atlantic Ocean





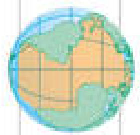


Scale 1:34,400,000

(projection: Robinson)

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 Km

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 Miles



Sea Level

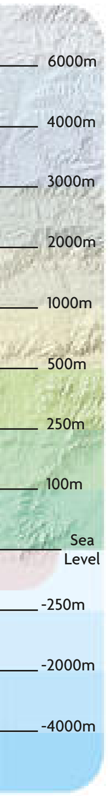
-820ft

-6562ft

-13,124ft

Antarctica


117
287
ATLANTIC OCEAN
PACIFIC OCEAN
SOUTHERN OCEAN
Punta Alta
Bahía Blanca
Río Colorado
Río Negro
Viedma
Golfo San Matías
Península Valdés
San Antonio Oeste
Puerto Lobos
Valcheta
Gaimán
Rawson
General Roca
Maquinchao
Río Limay
Golfo San Jorge
Comodoro Rivadavia
Caleta Olivia
Puerto Deseado
Punta Pozos
Jaramillo
San Carlos de Bariloche
Paso de Indios
Río Deseado
Puerto San Julián
Cerro Tres Picos 2492m
Alto Río Senguer
Comandante Luis Peidra Buena
Bahía Grande
Tierra del Fuego
Puerto Montt
Coihaique
Perito Moreno
Río Gallegos
Ushuaia
Cabo de Hornos (Cape Horn)
Ancud
Quellón
Puerto Aisén
Cochrane
Porvenir
Isla de Chiloé
San Valentín 4058m
CHILE
Cerro Pirámide 3380m
El Calafate
Punta Arenas
Puerto Natales
Península de Taitao
Golfo de Penas
Archipiélago de los Chonos
Isla Wellington
Isla Santa Inés
FALKLAND ISLANDS (to UK)
STANLEY
East Falkland
Mount Adam 700m
West Falkland
Cape Meredith
Drake Passage
Scotia Sea
South Orkney Islands
Laurie Island
Orcadas (Argentina)
Coronation Island
Signy (UK)
Limit of winter pack ice
Limit of summer pack ice
Clarence Island
Elephant Island
King George Island
Research stations on King George Island
Arctowski (to Poland)
Artigas (to Uruguay)
Bellingshausen (to Russian Federation)
Comandante Ferraz (to Brazil)
Great Wall (to China)
Jubany (to Argentina)
King Sejong (to South Korea)
Teniente Rodolfo Marsh (to Chile)
Joinville Island
Dundee Island
General Bernardo O'Higgins (Chile)
Esperanza (Argentina)
Marambio (Argentina)
Snowhill Island
Capitán Arturo Prat (Chile)
Livingston Island
South Shetland Islands
Bransfield Strait
Davis Coast
Danco Coast
Graham Land
James Ross Island
Robertson Island
Brabant Island
Jason Peninsula
Anvers Island
Palmer (US)
Vernadsky (Ukraine)
Churchill Peninsula
Larsen Ice Shelf
Biscoe Islands
Lavoisier Island
Cape Mascart
Bowman Coast
Cape Agassiz
Hearst Island
Ewing Island
Dolleman Island
Steele Island
Cape Bryant
Cape Knowles
Butler Island
Cape Mackintosh
Cape Deacon
Black Coast
Antarctic Peninsula
Palmer Land
Adelaide Island
San Martín
Rothera (UK)
Marguerite Bay
Fallières Coast
Mount Jackson 4190m
Lassiter Coast
Cape Fiske
George VI Sound
Fossil Bluff (UK)
Douglas Range
Alexander Island
Rothschild Island
Wilkins Ice Shelf
Antarctic Circle
Charcot Island
Latady Island
English Coast
Sky-Blu (UK)
Orville Coast
Spaatz Island
Smyley Island
Rydberg Peninsula
Case Island
Zumberge Coast
Weddell Sea
Halley (UK)
Luitpold Coast
Belgrano II (Argentina)
Filchner Ice Shelf
Berkner Island
Ronne Ice Shelf
Korff Ice Rise
Henry Ice Rise
Haag Nunataks
Rutford Ice Stream
Vinson Massif 4897m
Ellsworth Mountains
Bellingshausen Sea
Bryan Coast
Peter I Øy (to Norway)
Dendtler Island
Farwell Island
Eights Coast
Abbot Ice Shelf
Ellsworth Land
Whitmore Mountains
Mount Seelig 3022m
Dustin Island
Thurston Island
Noville Peninsula
Pine Island Glacier
Sherman Island
West Antarctica
Cape Flying Fish
King Peninsula
Canisteo Peninsula
Burke Island
Walgreen Coast
Marie Byrd Land
Bear Peninsula
Martin Peninsula
Amundsen Sea
Wright Island
Bakutis Coast
Getz Ice Shelf
Mount Sidley 4181m
Executive Committee Range
Carney Island
Siple Island
Rockefeller Plateau
Mount Siple 3100m
Dean Island
Hobbs Coast
Grant Island
Saunders Coast
Ruppert Coast
Cape Burks
Newman Island
Sulzberger Bay
TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Argentinian claim
Brazilian zone of interest
British claim
Norwegian undefined limit
Australian claim
Chilean claim
French claim
Australian claim
New Zealand claim

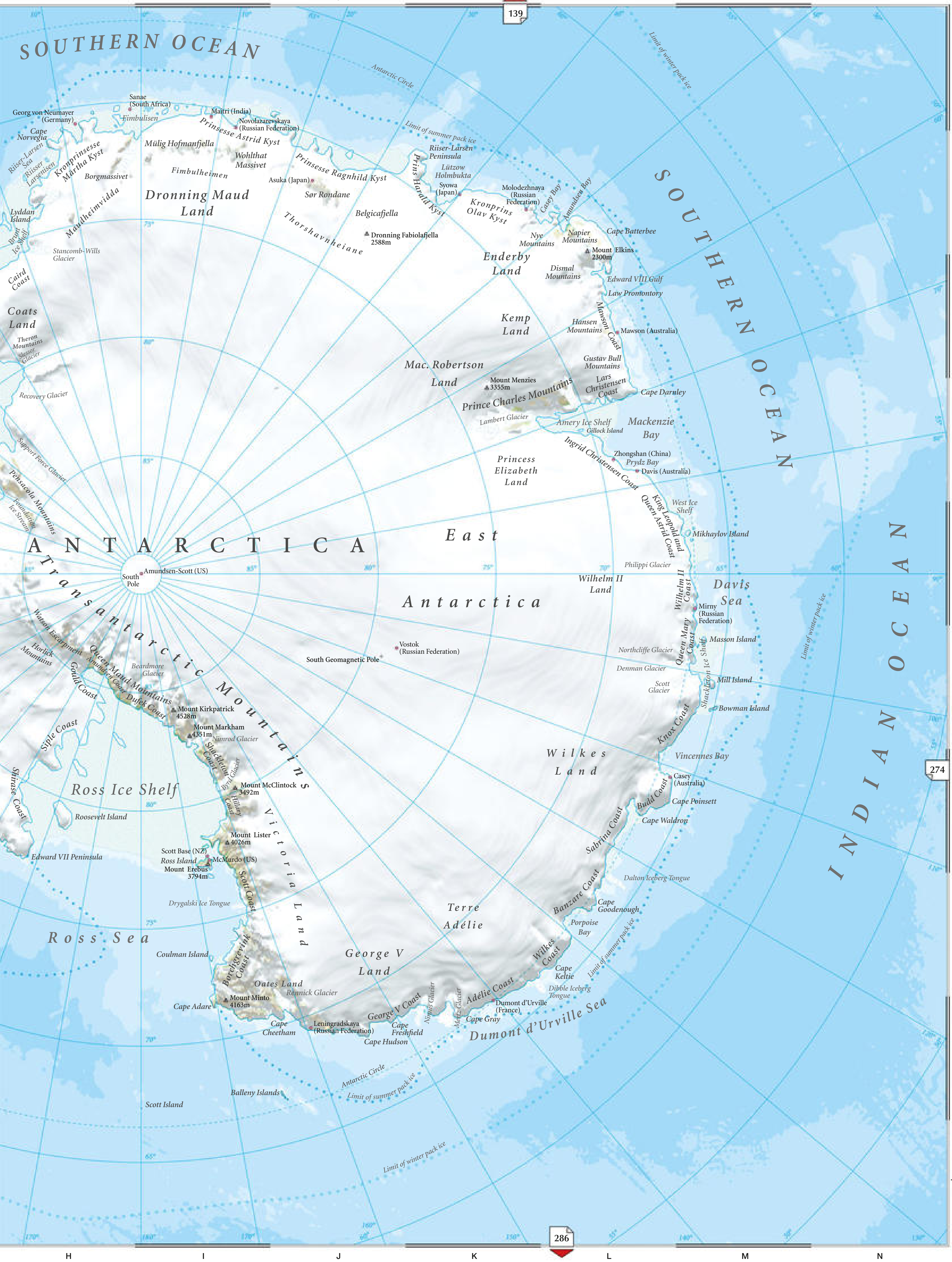

6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:18,190,000
(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 100 200 300 400 500 Km
0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles

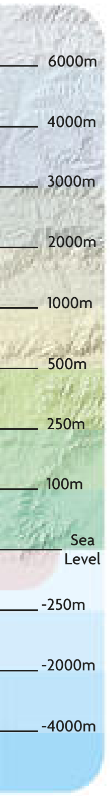
Population
- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000





The Arctic


A B C D E F G
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
193
286
287
JAPAN
Honshū
Aomori
Hakodate
Tomakomai
Sapporo
Hokkaidō
Kushiro
Wakkanai
Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
Mys Aniva
Ostrov Kunashir
Ostrov Iturup
Ostrov Urup
Ostrov Simushir
Ostrov Paramushir
Kuril'skiye Ostrova
Kurile Basin
Khabarovsk
Svetlaya
Khrebet Sikhote-Alin'
Amur
Komsomol'sk-na-Amure
Ekimchan
Sovetskaya Gavan'
Tatarskiy Proliv
Chumikan
Uglegorsk
Aleksandrovsk-Sakhalinskiy
Nikolayevsk-na-Amure
Ostrov Sakhalin
Okha
Mys Yelizavety
Ayan
Okhotskoye More (Sea of Okhotsk)
Limit of winter pack ice
Okhotsk
Magadan
Ozernovskiy
Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy
Mys Shipunskiy
Poluostrov Kamchatka
Sredinnyy Khrebet
Kamchatka
Ust'-Kamchatsk
Mys Tolstoy
Zaliv Shelikhova
Palana
Penzhinskaya Guba
Karaginskiy Zaliv
Ossora
Ostrov Karaginskiy
Ostrov Beringa
Komandorskiye Ostrova
Ostrov Mednyy
Komandorskaya Basin
Emperor Seamounts
Shirshov Ridge
Mys Olyutorskiy
Tilichiki
Pakhachi
Khatyrka
Near Islands
Attu Island
Attu
Agattu Island
Aleutian Basin
Rat Islands
Andreanof Islands
Atka
Aleutian Islands
Fox Islands
Umnak Island
Unalaska Island
Unimak Island
PACIFIC OCEAN
Bering Sea
Mys Navarin
Saint Matthew Island
Saint Lawrence Island
Nunivak Island
Hooper Bay
Kuskokwim Bay
Platinum
Bristol Bay
Port Heiden
Naknek
Chignik
Alaska Peninsula
Aleutian Range
Iliamna Lake
Dillingham
Kodiak Island
Kodiak
Gulf of Alaska
Neryungri
Olëkma
Aldan
Olëkminsk
Tommot
Verkhnyaya Amga
Uchur
Amga
Maya
Ust'-Maya
Yudoma
Solnechnyy
Khrebet Dzhugdzhur
Yakutsk
Vilyuysk
Vilyuy
Nyurba
Suntar
Lensk
Mirnyy
Chernyshevskiy
Vilyuyskoye Vodokhranilishche
Siberia
Sibir'
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Khandyga
Verkhoyanskiy Khrebet
Verkhoyansk
Zhigansk
Lena
Siktyakh
Olenëk
Kotuy
Kheta
Khatanga
Ozero Taymyr
Ust'-Olenëk
Oleněkskiy Zaliv
Ostrov Bol'shoy Begichev
Tiksi
Guba Buorkhaya
Yana
Ostrov Ayon
Khrebet Cherskogo
Kudysun
Ust'-Nera
Susuman
Gora Pobeda 3147m
Atka
Orotukan
Yamsk
Zyryanka
Indigirka
Kolyma
Kolymskaya Nizmennost'
Kolymskoye Nagor'ye
Omolon
Kolymskoye
Nizhnekolymsk
Ambarchik
Tabor
Nizhneyansk
More Laptevykh
Mys Svyatoy Nos
Ostrov Kotel'nyy
Ostrov Bol'shoy Lyakhovskiy
Proliv Dmitriya Lapteva
Novosibirskiye Ostrova
Ostrov Novaya Sibir'
Limit of permanent ice cap
Manily
Ayanka
Arctic Circle
Markovo
Anyuyskiy Khrebet
Ostrov Ayon
Pevek
Mys Shelagskiy
Vostochno-sibirskoye More
Wrangel Plain
Mendeleyev Ridge
Ostrov Vrangelya
Proliv Longa
Ekiatapskiy Khrebet
Anadyr
Anadyr'
Egvekinot
Anadyrskiy Zaliv
Chukotskiy Poluostrov
Vankarem
Chukchi Sea
Chukchi Plain
Chukchi Plateau
Northwind Plain
Limit of summer pack ice
Provideniya
Enurmino
Uelen
Bering Strait
Cape Prince of Wales
Point Hope
Cape Lisburne
Kotzebue Sound
Kotzebue
Noatak River
Baird Mountains
Brooks Range
Nome
Seward Peninsula
Norton Sound
Koyuk
Emmonak
Barrow
Point Barrow
Beaufort Sea
Canada Plain
Canada Basin
Prudhoe Bay
Mount Chamberlin 2749m
Kaktovik
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ALASKA
Yukon River
Napakiak
Koyukuk
Ruby
Kalskag
Kuskokwim Mountains
Kuskokwim River
Tanana
Fort Yukon
Fairbanks
Circle
Alaska Range
Gold Creek
Anchorage
Palmer
Delta Junction
Eagle
Cook Inlet
Homer
Kenai Peninsula
Seward
Glenallen
Tok
Valdez
Cordova
Dawson
Mount St Elias 5489m
Mount Logan 5959m
Haines Junction
Whitehorse
Skagway
Haines
Atlin
Juneau
Chichagof Island
Admiralty Island
Sitka
Baranof Island
Alexander Archipelago
Point Baker
Wrangell
Coast Mountains
Watson Lake
Dease Lake
Rocky Mountains
Selwyn Mountains
Mackenzie Mountains
Tuktoyaktuk
Inuvik
Cape Bathurst
Paulatuk
Amundsen Gulf
Banks Island
Anderson
Fort Good Hope
Great Bear Lake
Mackenzie
Kugluktuk (Coppermine)
Déline
Echo Bay
Wrigley
Edzo
Yellowknife
Great Slave Lake
Liard
Fort Liard
Fort Resolution
Hay River
NORTH


6000m
4000m
3000m
2000m
1000m
500m
250m
100m
Sea Level
-250m
-2000m
-4000m

Scale 1:18,190,000

(projection: Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area)

0 100 200 300 400 500 Km

0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles

Population

- above 5 million
- 1 million to 5 million
- 500,000 to 1 million
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- 10,000 to 50,000
- below 10,000



19,686ft
13,124ft
9843ft
6562ft
3281ft
1640ft
820ft
328ft
Sea Level
-820ft
-6562ft
-13,124ft

Geographical comparisons

Largest countries

Russian Federation	6,592,735 sq miles	(17,075,200 sq km)
Canada	3,855,171 sq miles	(9,984,670 sq km)
USA	3,794,100 sq miles	(9,826,675 sq km)
China	3,705,386 sq miles	(9,596,960 sq km)
Brazil	3,286,470 sq miles	(8,511,965 sq km)
Australia	2,967,893 sq miles	(7,686,850 sq km)
India	1,269,339 sq miles	(3,287,590 sq km)
Argentina	1,068,296 sq miles	(2,766,890 sq km)
Kazakhstan	1,049,150 sq miles	(2,717,300 sq km)
Algeria	919,590 sq miles	(2,381,740 sq km)

Smallest countries

Vatican City	0.17 sq miles	(0.44 sq km)
Monaco	0.75 sq miles	(1.95 sq km)
Nauru	8.2 sq miles	(21.2 sq km)
Tuvalu	10 sq miles	(26 sq km)
San Marino	24 sq miles	(61 sq km)
Liechtenstein	62 sq miles	(160 sq km)
Marshall Islands	70 sq miles	(181 sq km)
St. Kitts & Nevis	101 sq miles	(261 sq km)
Maldives	116 sq miles	(300 sq km)
Malta	124 sq miles	(320 sq km)

Largest islands

To the nearest 1000 – or 100,000 for the largest

Greenland	849,400 sq miles	(2,200,000 sq km)
New Guinea	312,000 sq miles	(808,000 sq km)
Borneo	292,222 sq miles	(757,050 sq km)
Madagascar	229,300 sq miles	(594,000 sq km)
Sumatra	202,300 sq miles	(524,000 sq km)
Baffin Island	183,800 sq miles	(476,000 sq km)
Honshu	88,800 sq miles	(230,000 sq km)
Britain	88,700 sq miles	(229,800 sq km)
Victoria Island	81,900 sq miles	(212,000 sq km)
Ellesmere Island	75,700 sq miles	(196,000 sq km)

Richest countries

GNI per capita, in US$

Monaco	186,950
Liechtenstein	136,770
Norway	102,610
Switzerland	90,760
Qatar	86,790
Luxembourg	69,900
Australia	65,390
Sweden	61,760
Denmark	61,680
Singapore	54,040

Poorest countries

GNI per capita, in US$

Burundi	260
Malawi	270
Somalia	288
Central African Republic	320
Niger	400
Liberia	410
Dem. Rep. Congo	430
Madagascar	440
Guinea	460
Ethiopia	470
Eritrea	490
Gambia	500

Most populous countries

China	1,393,800,000
India	1,267,400,000
USA	322,600,000
Indonesia	252,800,000
Brazil	202,120,000
Pakistan	185,100,000
Nigeria	178,500,000
Bangladesh	159,000,000
Russian Federation	142,500,000
Japan	127,000,000

Least populous countries

Vatican City	842
Nauru	9488
Tuvalu	10,782
Palau	21,186
San Marino	32,742
Monaco	36,950
Liechtenstein	37,313
St Kitts & Nevis	51,538
Marshall Islands	70,983
Dominica	73,449
Andorra	85,458
Antigua & Barbuda	91,295

Most densely populated countries

Monaco	49,267 people per sq mile	(18,949 per sq km)
Singapore	23,305 people per sq mile	(9016 per sq km)
Vatican City	4953 people per sq mile	(1914 per sq km)
Bahrain	4762 people per sq mile	(1841 per sq km)
Maldives	3448 people per sq mile	(1333 per sq km)
Malta	3226 people per sq mile	(1250 per sq km)
Bangladesh	3066 people per sq mile	(1184 per sq km)
Taiwan	1879 people per sq mile	(725 per sq km)
Barbados	1807 people per sq mile	(698 per sq km)
Mauritius	1671 people per sq mile	(645 per sq km)

Most sparsely populated countries

Mongolia	5 people per sq mile	(2 per sq km)
Namibia	7 people per sq mile	(3 per sq km)
Australia	8 people per sq mile	(3 per sq km)
Suriname	8 people per sq mile	(3 per sq km)
Iceland	8 people per sq mile	(3 per sq km)
Botswana	9 people per sq mile	(4 per sq km)
Libya	9 people per sq mile	(4 per sq km)
Mauriania	10 people per sq mile	(4 per sq km)
Canada	10 people per sq mile	(4 per sq km)
Guyana	11 people per sq mile	(4 per sq km)

Most widely spoken languages

1. Chinese (Mandarin)	6. Arabic
2. English	7. Bengali
3. Hindi	8. Portuguese
4. Spanish	9. Malay-Indonesian
5. Russian	10. French

Largest conurbations

Urban area population

Tokyo	37,800,000
Jakarta	30,500,000
Manila	24,100,000
Delhi	24,000,000
Karachi	23,500,000
Seoul	23,500,000
Shanghai	23,400,000
Beijing	21,000,000
New York City	20,600,000
Guangzhou	20,600,000
São Paulo	20,300,000
Mexico City	20,000,000
Mumbai	17,700,000
Osaka	17,400,000
Lagos	17,000,000
Moscow	16,100,000
Dhaka	15,700,000
Lahore	15,600,000
Los Angeles	15,000,000
Bangkok	15,000,000
Kolkatta	14,700,000
Buenos Aires	14,100,000
Tehran	13,500,000
Istanbul	13,300,000
Shenzhen	12,000,000

Countries with the most land borders

14: China	(Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Vietnam)
14: Russian Federation	(Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, North Korea, Norway, Poland, Ukraine)
10: Brazil	(Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela)
9: Congo, Dem. Rep.	(Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia)
9: Germany	(Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland)
8: Austria	(Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland)
8: France	(Andorra, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Spain, Switzerland)
8: Tanzania	(Burundi, Dem. Rep. Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia)
8: Turkey	(Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Syria)
8: Zambia	(Angola, Botswana, Dem. Rep.Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe)

Longest rivers

Nile (NE Africa)	4160 miles	(6695 km)
Amazon (South America)	4049 miles	(6516 km)
Yangtze (China)	3915 miles	(6299 km)
Mississippi/Missouri (USA)	3710 miles	(5969 km)
Ob'-Irtysh (Russian Federation)	3461 miles	(5570 km)
Yellow River (China)	3395 miles	(5464 km)
Congo (Central Africa)	2900 miles	(4667 km)
Mekong (Southeast Asia)	2749 miles	(4425 km)
Lena (Russian Federation)	2734 miles	(4400 km)
Mackenzie (Canada)	2640 miles	(4250 km)
Yenisey (Russian Federation)	2541 miles	(4090km)

Highest mountains

Height above sea level

Everest	29,029 ft	(8848 m)
K2	28,253 ft	(8611 m)
Kangchenjunga I	28,210 ft	(8598 m)
Makalu I	27,767 ft	(8463 m)
Cho Oyu	26,907 ft	(8201 m)
Dhaulagiri I	26,796 ft	(8167 m)
Manaslu I	26,783 ft	(8163 m)
Nanga Parbat I	26,661 ft	(8126 m)
Annapurna I	26,547 ft	(8091 m)
Gasherbrum I	26,471 ft	(8068 m)

Largest bodies of inland water

With area and depth

Caspian Sea	143,243 sq miles (371,000 sq km)	3215 ft (980 m)
Lake Superior	31,151 sq miles (83,270 sq km)	1289 ft (393 m)
Lake Victoria	26,828 sq miles (69,484 sq km)	328 ft (100 m)
Lake Huron	23,436 sq miles (60,700 sq km)	751 ft (229 m)
Lake Michigan	22,402 sq miles (58,020 sq km)	922 ft (281 m)
Lake Tanganyika	12,703 sq miles (32,900 sq km)	4700 ft (1435 m)
Great Bear Lake	12,274 sq miles (31,790 sq km)	1047 ft (319 m)
Lake Baikal	11,776 sq miles (30,500 sq km)	5712 ft (1741 m)
Great Slave Lake	10,981 sq miles (28,440 sq km)	459 ft (140 m)
Lake Erie	9,915 sq miles (25,680 sq km)	197 ft (60 m)

Deepest ocean features

Challenger Deep, Mariana Trench (Pacific)	35,827 ft	(10,920 m)
Vityaz III Depth, Tonga Trench (Pacific)	35,704 ft	(10,882 m)
Vityaz Depth, Kuril-Kamchatka Trench (Pacific)	34,588 ft	(10,542 m)
Cape Johnson Deep, Philippine Trench (Pacific)	34,441 ft	(10,497 m)
Kermadec Trench (Pacific)	32,964 ft	(10,047 m)
Ramapo Deep, Japan Trench (Pacific)	32,758 ft	(9984 m)
Milwaukee Deep, Puerto Rico Trench (Atlantic)	30,185 ft	(9200 m)
Argo Deep, Torres Trench (Pacific)	30,070 ft	(9165 m)
Meteor Depth, South Sandwich Trench (Atlantic)	30,000 ft	(9144 m)
Planet Deep, New Britain Trench (Pacific)	29,988 ft	(9140 m)

Greatest waterfalls

Mean flow of water

Boyoma (Dem. Rep. Congo)	600,400 cu. ft/sec	(17,000 cu.m/sec)
Khône (Laos/Cambodia)	410,000 cu. ft/sec	(11,600 cu.m/sec)
Niagara (USA/Canada)	195,000 cu. ft/sec	(5500 cu.m/sec)
Grande, Salto (Uruguay)	160,000 cu. ft/sec	(4500 cu.m/sec)
Paulo Afonso (Brazil)	100,000 cu. ft/sec	(2800 cu.m/sec)
Urubupungá, Salto do (Brazil)	97,000 cu. ft/sec	(2750 cu.m/sec)
Iguaçu (Argentina/Brazil)	62,000 cu. ft/sec	(1700 cu.m/sec)
Maribondo, Cachoeira do (Brazil)	53,000 cu. ft/sec	(1500 cu.m/sec)
Victoria (Zimbabwe)	39,000 cu. ft/sec	(1100 cu.m/sec)
Murchison Falls (Uganda)	42,000 cu. ft/sec	(1200 cu.m/sec)
Churchill (Canada)	35,000 cu. ft/sec	(1000 cu.m/sec)
Kaveri Falls (India)	33,000 cu. ft/sec	(900 cu.m/sec)

Highest waterfalls

* Indicates that the total height is a single leap

Angel (Venezuela)	3212 ft	(979 m)
Tugela (South Africa)	3110 ft	(948 m)
Utigard (Norway)	2625 ft	(800 m)
Mongefossen (Norway)	2539 ft	(774 m)
Mtarazi (Zimbabwe)	2500 ft	(762 m)
Yosemite (USA)	2425 ft	(739 m)
Ostre Mardola Foss (Norway)	2156 ft	(657 m)
Tyssestrengane (Norway)	2119 ft	(646 m)
***Cuquenan** (Venezuela)	2001 ft	(610 m)
Sutherland (New Zealand)	1903 ft	(580 m)
***Kjellfossen** (Norway)	1841 ft	(561 m)

Largest deserts

NB – Most of Antarctica is a polar desert, with only 50mm of precipitation annually

Sahara	3,450,000 sq miles	(9,065,000 sq km)
Gobi	500,000 sq miles	(1,295,000 sq km)
Ar Rub al Khali	289,600 sq miles	(750,000 sq km)
Great Victorian	249,800 sq miles	(647,000 sq km)
Sonoran	120,000 sq miles	(311,000 sq km)
Kalahari	120,000 sq miles	(310,800 sq km)
Kara Kum	115,800 sq miles	(300,000 sq km)
Takla Makan	100,400 sq miles	(260,000 sq km)
Namib	52,100 sq miles	(135,000 sq km)
Thar	33,670 sq miles	(130,000 sq km)

Hottest inhabited places

Djibouti (Djibouti)	86° F	(30 °C)
Tombouctou (Mali)	84.7° F	(29.3 °C)
Tirunelveli (India)		
Tuticorin (India)		
Nellore (India)	84.5° F	(29.2 °C)
Santa Marta (Colombia)		
Aden (Yemen)	84° F	(28.9 °C)
Madurai (India)		
Niamey (Niger)		
Hodeida (Yemen)	83.8° F	(28.8 °C)
Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso)		
Thanjavur (India)		
Tiruchchirappalli (India)		

Driest inhabited places

Aswân (Egypt)	0.02 in	(0.5 mm)
Luxor (Egypt)	0.03 in	(0.7 mm)
Arica (Chile)	0.04 in	(1.1 mm)
Ica (Peru)	0.1 in	(2.3 mm)
Antofagasta (Chile)	0.2 in	(4.9 mm)
Al Minya (Egypt)	0.2 in	(5.1 mm)
Asyut (Egypt)	0.2 in	(5.2 mm)
Callao (Peru)	0.5 in	(12.0 mm)
Trujillo (Peru)	0.55 in	(14.0 mm)
Al Fayyum (Egypt)	0.8 in	(19.0 mm)

Wettest inhabited places

Mawsynram (India)	467 in	(11,862 mm)
Mount Waialeale (Hawaii, USA)	460 in	(11,684 mm)
Cherrapunji (India)	450 in	(11,430 mm)
Cape Debundsha (Cameroon)	405 in	(10,290 mm)
Quibdo (Colombia)	354 in	(8892 mm)
Buenaventura (Colombia)	265 in	(6743 mm)
Monrovia (Liberia)	202 in	(5131 mm)
Pago Pago (American Samoa)	196 in	(4990 mm)
Mawlamyine (Myanmar [Burma])	191 in	(4852 mm)
Lae (Papua New Guinea)	183 in	(4645 mm)

Countries of the World

There are currently 196 independent countries in the world – more than at any previous time – and almost 60 dependencies. Antarctica is the only land area on Earth that is not officially part of, and does not belong to, any single country.

In 1950, the world comprised 82 countries. In the decades following, many more states came into being as they achieved independence from their former colonial rulers. Most recent additions were caused by the breakup of the former Soviet Union in 1991, and the former Yugoslavia in 1992, which swelled the ranks of independent states. In July 2011, South Sudan became the latest country to be formed after declaring independence from Sudan.

Country factfile key

Formation Date of independence / date current borders were established

Population Total population / population density – based on total *land* area

Languages An asterisk (*) denotes the official language(s)

Calorie consumption Average number of calories consumed daily per person

AFGHANISTAN
Central Asia

Official name Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Formation 1919 / 1919
Capital Kabul
Population 31.3 million / 124 people per sq mile (48 people per sq km)
Total area 250,000 sq. miles (647,500 sq. km)
Languages Pashtu*, Tajik, Dari*, Farsi, Uzbek, Turkmen
Religions Sunni Muslim 80%, Shi'a Muslim 19%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Pashtun 38%, Tajik 25%, Hazara 19%, Uzbek and Turkmen 15%, Other 3%
Government Nonparty system
Currency Afghani = 100 puls
Literacy rate rate 32%
Calorie consumption 2090 kilocalories

ALBANIA
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Albania
Formation 1912 / 1921
Capital Tirana
Population 3.2 million / 302 people per sq mile (117 people per sq km)
Total area 11,100 sq. miles (28,748 sq. km)
Languages Albanian*, Greek
Religions Sunni Muslim 70%, Albanian Orthodox 20%, Roman Catholic 10%
Ethnic mix Albanian 98%, Greek 1%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Lek = 100 qindarka (qintars)
Literacy rate 97%
Calorie consumption 3023 kilocalories

ALGERIA
North Africa

Official name People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Algiers
Population 39.9 million / 43 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 919,590 sq. miles (2,381,740 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Tamazight (Kabyle, Shawia, Tamashek), French
Religions Sunni Muslim 99%, Christian and Jewish 1%
Ethnic mix Arab 75%, Berber 24%, European and Jewish 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Algerian dinar = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 73%
Calorie consumption 3296 kilocalories

ANDORRA
Southwest Europe

Official name Principality of Andorra
Formation 1278 / 1278
Capital Andorra la Vella
Population 85,485 / 475 people per sq mile (184 people per sq km)
Total area 181 sq. miles (468 sq. km)
Languages Spanish, Catalan*, French, Portuguese
Religions Roman Catholic 94%, Other 6%
Ethnic mix Spanish 46%, Andorran 28%, Other 18%, French 8%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

ANGOLA
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Angola
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital Luanda
Population 22.1 million / 46 people per sq mile (18 people per sq km)
Total area 481,351 sq. miles (1,246,700 sq. km)
Languages Portuguese*, Umbundu, Kimbundu, Kikongo
Religions Roman Catholic 68%, Protestant 20%, Indigenous beliefs 12%
Ethnic mix Ovimbundu 37%, Kimbundu 25%, Other 25%, Bakongo 13%
Government Presidential system
Currency Readjusted kwanza = 100 lwei
Literacy rate 71%
Calorie consumption 2473 kilocalories

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
West Indies

Official name Antigua and Barbuda
Formation 1981 / 1981
Capital St. John's
Population 91,295 / 537 people per sq mile (207 people per sq km)
Total area 170 sq. miles (442 sq. km)
Languages English*, English patois
Religions Anglican 45%, Other Protestant 42%, Roman Catholic 10%, Other 2%, Rastafarian 1%
Ethnic mix Black African 95%, Other 5%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2396 kilocalories

ARGENTINA
South America

Official name Argentine Republic
Formation 1816 / 1816
Capital Buenos Aires
Population 41.8 million / 40 people per sq mile (15 people per sq km)
Total area 1,068,296 sq. miles (2,766,890 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Italian, Amerindian languages
Religions Roman Catholic 70%, Other 18%, Protestant 9%, Muslim 2%, Jewish 1%
Ethnic mix Indo-European 97%, Mestizo 2%, Amerindian 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Argentine peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 3155 kilocalories

ARMENIA
Southwest Asia

Official name Republic of Armenia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Yerevan
Population 3 million / 261 people per sq mile (101 people per sq km)
Total area 11,506 sq. miles (29,800 sq. km)
Languages Armenian*, Azeri, Russian
Religions Armenian Apostolic Church (Orthodox) 88%, Armenian Catholic Church 6%, Other 6%
Ethnic mix Armenian 98%, Other 1%, Yezidi 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Dram = 100 luma
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2809 kilocalories

AUSTRALIA
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Commonwealth of Australia
Formation 1901 / 1901
Capital Canberra
Population 23.6 million / 8 people per sq mile (3 people per sq km)
Total area 2,967,893 sq. miles (7,686,850 sq. km)
Languages English*, Italian, Cantonese, Greek, Arabic, Vietnamese, Aboriginal languages
Religions Roman Catholic 26%, Nonreligious 19%, Anglican 19%, Other 17%, Other Christian 13%, United Church 6%
Ethnic mix European origin 50%, Australian 25.5%, other 19%, Asian 5%, Aboriginal 0.5%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Australian dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3265 kilocalories

AUSTRIA
Central Europe

Official name Republic of Austria
Formation 1918 / 1919
Capital Vienna
Population 8.5 million / 266 people per sq mile (103 people per sq km)
Total area 32,378 sq. miles (83,858 sq. km)
Languages German*, Croatian, Slovenian, Hungarian (Magyar)
Religions Roman Catholic 78%, Nonreligious 9%, Other (including Jewish and Muslim) 8%, Protestant 5%
Ethnic mix Austrian 93%, Croat, Slovene, and Hungarian 6%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3784 kilocalories

AZERBAIJAN
Southwest Asia

Official name Republic of Azerbaijan
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Baku
Population 9.5 million / 284 people per sq mile (110 people per sq km)
Total area 33,436 sq. miles (86,600 sq. km)
Languages Azeri*, Russian
Religions Shi'a Muslim 68%, Sunni Muslim 26%, Russian Orthodox 3%, Armenian Apostolic Church (Orthodox) 2%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Azeri 91%, Other 3%, Lazs 2%, Armenian 2%, Russian 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency New manat = 100 gopik
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2952 kilocalories

THE BAHAMAS
West Indies

Official name Commonwealth of The Bahamas
Formation 1973 / 1973
Capital Nassau
Population 400,000 / 103 people per sq mile (40 people per sq km)
Total area 5382 sq. miles (13,940 sq. km)
Languages English*, English Creole, French Creole
Religions Baptist 32%, Anglican 20%, Roman Catholic 19%, Other 17%, Methodist 6%, Church of God 6%
Ethnic mix Black African 85%, European 12%, Asian and Hispanic 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Bahamian dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 96%
Calorie consumption 2575 kilocalories

BAHRAIN
Southwest Asia

Official name Kingdom of Bahrain
Formation 1971 / 1971
Capital Manama
Population 1.3 million / 4762 people per sq mile (1841 people per sq km)
Total area 239 sq. miles (620 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*
Religions Muslim (mainly Shi'a) 99%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Bahraini 63%, Asian 19%, Other Arab 10%, Iranian 8%
Government Mixed monarchical–parliamentary system
Currency Bahraini dinar = 1000 fils
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption Not available

BANGLADESH
South Asia

Official name People's Republic of Bangladesh
Formation 1971 / 1971
Capital Dhaka
Population 159 million / 3066 people per sq mile (1184 people per sq km)
Total area 55,598 sq. miles (144,000 sq. km)
Languages Bengali*, Urdu, Chakma, Marma (Magh), Garo, Khasi, Santhali, Tripuri, Mro
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 88%, Hindu 11%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Bengali 98%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Taka = 100 poisha
Literacy rate 59%
Calorie consumption 2450 kilocalories

BARBADOS
West Indies

Official name Barbados
Formation 1966 / 1966
Capital Bridgetown
Population 300,000 / 1807 people per sq mile (698 people per sq km)
Total area 166 sq. miles (430 sq. km)
Languages Bajan (Barbadian English), English*
Religions Anglican 40%, Other 24%, Nonreligious 17%, Pentecostal 8%, Methodist 7%, Roman Catholic 4%
Ethnic mix Black African 92%, White 3%, Other 3%, Mixed race 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Barbados dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3047 kilocalories

BELARUS
Eastern Europe

Official name Republic of Belarus
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Minsk
Population 9.3 million / 116 people per sq mile (45 people per sq km)
Total area 80,154 sq. miles (207,600 sq. km)
Languages Belarussian*, Russian*
Religions Orthodox Christian 80%, Roman Catholic 14%, Other 4%, Protestant 2%
Ethnic mix Belarussian 81%, Russian 11%, Polish 4%, Ukrainian 2%, Other 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Belarussian rouble = 100 kopeks
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3253 kilocalories

BELGIUM
Northwest Europe

Official name Kingdom of Belgium
Formation 1830 / 1919
Capital Brussels
Population 11.1 million / 876 people per sq mile (338 people per sq km)
Total area 11,780 sq. miles (30,510 sq. km)
Languages Dutch*, French*, German*
Religions Roman Catholic 88%, Other 10%, Muslim 2%
Ethnic mix Fleming 58%, Walloon 33%, Other 6%, Italian 2%, Moroccan 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3793 kilocalories

BELIZE
Central America

Official name Belize
Formation 1981 / 1981
Capital Belmopan
Population 300,000 / 34 people per sq mile (13 people per sq km)
Total area 8867 sq. miles (22,966 sq. km)
Languages English Creole, Spanish, English*, Mayan, Garifuna (Carib)
Religions Roman Catholic 62%, Other 13%, Anglican 12%, Methodist 6%, Mennonite 4%, Seventh-day Adventist 3%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 49%, Creole 25%, Maya 11%, Garifuna 6%, Other 6%, Asian Indian 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Belizean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 75%
Calorie consumption 2751 kilocalories

BENIN
West Africa

Official name Republic of Benin
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Porto-Novo
Population 10.6 million / 248 people per sq mile (96 people per sq km)
Total area 43,483 sq. miles (112,620 sq. km)
Languages Fon, Bariba, Yoruba, Adja, Houeda, Somba, French*
Religions Indigenous beliefs and Voodoo 50%, Christian 30%, Muslim 20%
Ethnic mix Fon 41%, Other 21%, Adja 16%, Yoruba 12%, Bariba 10%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 29%
Calorie consumption 2594 kilocalories

BHUTAN
South Asia

Official name Kingdom of Bhutan
Formation 1656 / 1865
Capital Thimphu
Population 800,000 / 44 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 18,147 sq. miles (47,000 sq. km)
Languages Dzongkha*, Nepali, Assamese
Religions Mahayana Buddhist 75%, Hindu 25%
Ethnic mix Drukpa 50%, Nepalese 35%, Other 15%
Government Mixed monarchical–parliamentary system
Currency Ngultrum = 100 chetrum
Literacy rate 53%
Calorie consumption Not available

BOLIVIA
South America

Official name Plurinational State of Bolivia
Formation 1825 / 1938
Capital La Paz (administrative); Sucre (judicial)
Population 10.8 million / 26 people per sq mile (10 people per sq km)
Total area 424,162 sq. miles (1,098,580 sq. km)
Languages Aymara*, Quechua*, Spanish*
Religions Roman Catholic 93%, Other 7%
Ethnic mix Quechua 37%, Aymara 32%, Mixed race 13%, European 10%, Other 8%
Government Presidential system
Currency Boliviano = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2254 kilocalories

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
Southeast Europe

Official name Bosnia and Herzegovina
Formation 1992 / 1992
Capital Sarajevo
Population 3.8 million / 192 people per sq mile (74 people per sq km)
Total area 19,741 sq. miles (51,129 sq. km)
Languages Bosnian*, Serbian*, Croatian*
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 40%, Orthodox Christian 31%, Roman Catholic 15%, Other 10%, Protestant 4%
Ethnic mix Bosniak 48%, Serb 34%, Croat 16%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Marka = 100 pfeninga
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 3130 kilocalories

BOTSWANA
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Botswana
Formation 1966 / 1966
Capital Gaborone
Population 2 million / 9 people per sq mile (4 people per sq km)
Total area 231,803 sq. miles (600,370 sq. km)
Languages Setswana, English*, Shona, San, Khoikhoi, isiNdebele
Religions Christian (mainly Protestant) 70%, Nonreligious 20%, Traditional beliefs 6%, Other (including Muslim) 4%
Ethnic mix Tswana 79%, Kalanga 11%, Other 10%
Government Presidential system
Currency Pula = 100 thebe
Literacy rate 87%
Calorie consumption 2285 kilocalories

BRAZIL
South America

Official name Federative Republic of Brazil
Formation 1822 / 1828
Capital Brasília
Population 202 million / 62 people per sq mile (24 people per sq km)
Total area 3,286,470 sq. miles (8,511,965 sq. km)
Languages Portuguese*, German, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Japanese, Amerindian languages
Religions Roman Catholic 74%, Protestant 15%, Atheist 7%, Other 3%, Afro-American Spiritist 1%
Ethnic mix White 54%, Mixed race 38%, Black 6%, Other 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Real = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 91%
Calorie consumption 3263 kilocalories

BRUNEI
Southeast Asia

Official name Brunei Darussalam
Formation 1984 / 1984
Capital Bandar Seri Begawan
Population 400,000 / 197 people per sq mile (76 people per sq km)
Total area 2228 sq. miles (5770 sq. km)
Languages Malay*, English, Chinese
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 66%, Buddhist 14%, Other 10%, Christian 10%
Ethnic mix Malay 67%, Chinese 16%, Other 11%, Indigenous 6%
Government Monarchy
Currency Brunei dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption 2949 kilocalories

BULGARIA
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Bulgaria
Formation 1908 / 1947
Capital Sofia
Population 7.2 million / 169 people per sq mile (65 people per sq km)
Total area 42,822 sq. miles (110,910 sq. km)
Languages Bulgarian*, Turkish, Romani
Religions Bulgarian Orthodox 83%, Muslim 12%, Other 4%, Roman Catholic 1%
Ethnic mix Bulgarian 84%, Turkish 9%, Roma 5%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Lev = 100 stotinki
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2877 kilocalories

BURKINA FASO
West Africa

Official name Burkina Faso
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Ouagadougou
Population 17.4 million / 165 people per sq mile (64 people per sq km)
Total area 105,869 sq. miles (274,200 sq. km)
Languages Mossi, Fulani, French*, Tuare g, Dyula, Songhai
Religions Muslim 55%, Christian 25%, Traditional beliefs 20%
Ethnic mix Mossi 48%, Other 21%, Peul 10%, Lobi 7%, Bobo 7%, Mandé 7%
Government Transitional regime
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 29%
Calorie consumption 2720 kilocalories

BURUNDI
Central Africa

Official name Republic of Burundi
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Bujumbura
Population 10.5 million / 1060 people per sq mile (409 people per sq km)
Total area 10,745 sq. miles (27,830 sq. km)
Languages Kirundi*, French*, Kiswahili
Religions Roman Catholic 62%, Traditional beliefs 23%, Muslim 10%, Protestant 5%
Ethnic mix Hutu 85%, Tutsi 14%, Twa 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Burundian franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 87%
Calorie consumption 1604 kilocalories

CAMBODIA
Southeast Asia

Official name Kingdom of Cambodia
Formation 1953 / 1953
Capital Phnom Penh
Population 15.4 million / 226 people per sq mile (87 people per sq km)
Total area 69,900 sq. miles (181,040 sq. km)
Languages Khmer*, French, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cham
Religions Buddhist 93%, Muslim 6%, Christian 1%
Ethnic mix Khmer 90%, Vietnamese 5%, Other 4%, Chinese 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Riel = 100 sen
Literacy rate 74%
Calorie consumption 2411 kilocalories

CAMEROON
Central Africa

Official name Republic of Cameroon
Formation 1960 / 1961
Capital Yaoundé
Population 22.8 million / 127 people per sq mile (49 people per sq km)
Total area 183,567 sq. miles (475,400 sq. km)
Languages Bamileke, Fang, Fulani, French*, English*
Religions Roman Catholic 35%, Traditional beliefs 25%, Muslim 22%, Protestant 18%
Ethnic mix Cameroon highlanders 31%, Other 21%, Equatorial Bantu 19%, Kirdi 11%, Fulani 10%, Northwestern Bantu 8%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 71%
Calorie consumption 2586 kilocalories

CANADA
North America

Official name Canada
Formation 1867 / 1949
Capital Ottawa
Population 35.5 million / 10 people per sq mile (4 people per sq km)
Total area 3,855,171 sq. miles (9,984,670 sq. km)
Languages English*, French*, Chinese, Italian, German, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Inuktitut, Cree
Religions Roman Catholic 44%, Protestant 29%, Other and nonreligious 27%
Ethnic mix European origin 66%, other 27%, Asian 5%, Amerindian 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Canadian dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3419 kilocalories

CAPE VERDE
Atlantic Ocean

Official name Republic of Cape Verde
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital Praia
Population 500,000 / 321 people per sq mile (124 people per sq km)
Total area 1557 sq. miles (4033 sq. km)
Languages Portuguese Creole, Portuguese*
Religions Roman Catholic 97%, Other 2%, Protestant (Church of the Nazarene) 1%
Ethnic mix Mestiço 71%, African 28%, European 1%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Escudo = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 85%
Calorie consumption 2716 kilocalories

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Central Africa

Official name Central African Republic
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Bangui
Population 4.7 million / 20 people per sq mile (8 people per sq km)
Total area 240,534 sq. miles (622,984 sq. km)
Languages Sango, Banda, Gbaya, French*
Religions Traditional beliefs 35%, Roman Catholic 25%, Protestant 25%, Muslim 15%
Ethnic mix Baya 33%, Banda 27%, Other 17%, Mandjia 13%, Sara 10%
Government Transitional regime
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 37%
Calorie consumption 2154 kilocalories

CHAD
Central Africa

Official name Republic of Chad
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital N'Djaména
Population 13.2 million / 27 people per sq mile (10 people per sq km)
Total area 495,752 sq. miles (1,284,000 sq. km)
Languages French*, Sara, Arabic*, Maba
Religions Muslim 51%, Christian 35%, Animist 7%, Traditional beliefs 7%
Ethnic mix Other 30%, Sara 28%, Mayo-Kebbi 12%, Arab 12%, Ouaddai 9%, Kanem-Bornou 9%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 37%
Calorie consumption 2110 kilocalories

CHILE
South America

Official name Republic of Chile
Formation 1818 / 1883
Capital Santiago
Population 17.8 million / 62 people per sq mile (24 people per sq km)
Total area 292,258 sq. miles (756,950 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Amerindian languages
Religions Roman Catholic 89%, Other and nonreligious 11%
Ethnic mix Mestizo and European 90%, Other Amerindian 9%, Mapuche 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Chilean peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2989 kilocalories

CHINA
East Asia

Official name People's Republic of China
Formation 960 / 1999
Capital Beijing
Population 1.39 billion / 387 people per sq mile (149 people per sq km)
Total area 3,705,386 sq. miles (9,596,960 sq. km)
Languages Mandarin*, Wu, Cantonese, Hsiang, Min, Hakka, Kan
Religions Nonreligious 59%, Traditional beliefs 20%, Other 13%, Buddhist 6%, Muslim 2%
Ethnic mix Han 92%, Other 4%, Hui 1%, Miao 1%, Manchu 1%, Zhuang 1%
Government One-party state
Currency Renminbi (known as yuan) = 10 jiao = 100 fen
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption 3108 kilocalories

COLOMBIA
South America

Official name Republic of Colombia
Formation 1819 / 1903
Capital Bogotá
Population 48.9 million / 122 people per sq mile (47 people per sq km)
Total area 439,733 sq. miles (1,138,910 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Wayuu, Páez, and other Amerindian languages
Religions Roman Catholic 95%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 58%, White 20%, European–African 14%, African 4%, African–Amerindian 3%, Amerindian 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Colombian peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2804 kilocalories

COMOROS
Indian Ocean

Official name Union of the Comoros
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital Moroni
Population 800,000 / 929 people per sq mile (359 people per sq km)
Total area 838 sq. miles (2170 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Comoran*, French*
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 98%, Other 1%, Roman Catholic 1%
Ethnic mix Comoran 97%, Other 3%
Government Presidential system
Currency Comoros franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 76%
Calorie consumption 2139 kilocalories

CONGO
Central Africa

Official name Republic of the Congo
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Brazzaville
Population 4.6 million / 35 people per sq mile (13 people per sq km)
Total area 132,046 sq. miles (342,000 sq. km)
Languages Kongo, Teke, Lingala, French*
Religions Traditional beliefs 50%, Roman Catholic 35%, Protestant 13%, Muslim 2%
Ethnic mix Bakongo 51%, Teke 17%, Other 16%, Mbochi 11%, Mbédé 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 79%
Calorie consumption 2195 kilocalories

CONGO, DEM. REP.
Central Africa

Official name Democratic Republic of the Congo
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Kinshasa
Population 69.4 million / 79 people per sq mile (31 people per sq km)
Total area 905,563 sq. miles (2,345,410 sq. km)
Languages Kiswahili, Tshiluba, Kikongo, Lingala, French*
Religions Roman Catholic 50%, Protestant 20%, Traditional beliefs and other 10%, Muslim 10%, Kimbanguist 10%
Ethnic mix Other 55%, Mongo, Luba, Kongo, and Mangbetu-Azande 45%
Government Presidential system
Currency Congolese franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 61%
Calorie consumption 1585 kilocalories

COSTA RICA
Central America

Official name Republic of Costa Rica
Formation 1838 / 1838
Capital San José
Population 4.9 million / 249 people per sq mile (96 people per sq km)
Total area 19,730 sq. miles (51,100 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, English Creole, Bribri, Cabecar
Religions Roman Catholic 71%, Evangelical 14%, Nonreligious 11%, Other 4%
Ethnic mix Mestizo and European 94%, Black 3%, Other 1%, Chinese 1%, Amerindian 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Costa Rican colón = 100 céntimos
Literacy rate 97%
Calorie consumption 2898 kilocalories

CROATIA
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Croatia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Zagreb
Population 4.3 million / 197 people per sq mile (76 people per sq km)
Total area 21,831 sq. miles (56,542 sq. km)
Languages Croatian*
Religions Roman Catholic 88%, Other 7%, Orthodox Christian 4%, Muslim 1%
Ethnic mix Croat 90%, Other 5%, Serb 5%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Kuna = 100 lipa
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3052 kilocalories

CUBA
West Indies

Official name Republic of Cuba
Formation 1902 / 1902
Capital Havana
Population 11.3 million / 264 people per sq mile (102 people per sq km)
Total area 42,803 sq. miles (110,860 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*
Religions Nonreligious 49%, Roman Catholic 40%, Atheist 6%, Other 4%, Protestant 1%
Ethnic mix Mulatto (mixed race) 51%, White 37%, Black 11%, Chinese 1%
Government One-party state
Currency Cuban peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3277 kilocalories

CYPRUS
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Cyprus
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Nicosia
Population 1.2 million / 336 people per sq mile (130 people per sq km)
Total area 3571 sq. miles (9250 sq. km)
Languages Greek*, Turkish*
Religions Orthodox Christian 78%, Muslim 18%, Other 4%
Ethnic mix Greek 81%, Turkish 11%, Other 8%
Government Presidential system
Currency Euro = 100 cents; (TRNC: new Turkish lira = 100 kurus)
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2661 kilocalories

CZECH REPUBLIC
Central Europe

Official name Czech Republic
Formation 1993 / 1993
Capital Prague
Population 10.7 million / 351 people per sq mile (136 people per sq km)
Total area 30,450 sq. miles (78,866 sq. km)
Languages Czech*, Slovak, Hungarian (Magyar)
Religions Roman Catholic 39%, Atheist 38%, Other 18%, Protestant 3%, Hussite 2%
Ethnic mix Czech 90%, Moravian 4%, Other 4%, Slovak 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Czech koruna = 100 haleru
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3292 kilocalories

DENMARK
Northern Europe

Official name Kingdom of Denmark
Formation 950 / 1944
Capital Copenhagen
Population 5.6 million / 342 people per sq mile (132 people per sq km)
Total area 16,639 sq. miles (43,094 sq. km)
Languages Danish*
Religions Evangelical Lutheran 95%, Roman Catholic 3%, Muslim 2%
Ethnic mix Danish 96%, Other (including Scandinavian and Turkish) 3%, Faeroese and Inuit 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Danish krone = 100 øre
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3363 kilocalories

DJIBOUTI
East Africa

Official name Republic of Djibouti
Formation 1977 / 1977
Capital Djibouti
Population 900,000 / 101 people per sq mile (39 people per sq km)
Total area 8494 sq. miles (22,000 sq. km)
Languages Somali, Afar, French*, Arabic*
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 94%, Christian 6%
Ethnic mix Issa 60%, Afar 35%, Other 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency Djibouti franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 70%
Calorie consumption 2526 kilocalories

DOMINICA
West Indies

Official name Commonwealth of Dominica
Formation 1978 / 1978
Capital Roseau
Population 73,449 / 253 people per sq mile (98 people per sq km)
Total area 291 sq. miles (754 sq. km)
Languages French Creole, English*
Religions Roman Catholic 77%, Protestant 15%, Other 8%
Ethnic mix Black 87%, Mixed race 9%, Carib 3%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 88%
Calorie consumption 3047 kilocalories

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
West Indies

Official name Dominican Republic
Formation 1865 / 1865
Capital Santo Domingo
Population 10.5 million / 562people per sq mile (217 people per sq km)
Total area 18,679 sq. miles (48,380 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, French Creole
Religions Roman Catholic 95%, Other and nonreligious 5%
Ethnic mix Mixed race 73%, European 16%, Black African 11%
Government Presidential system
Currency Dominican Republic peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 91%
Calorie consumption 2614 kilocalories

EAST TIMOR
Southeast Asia

Official name Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
Formation 2002 / 2002
Capital Dili
Population 1.2 million / 213 people per sq mile (82 people per sq km)
Total area 5756 sq. miles (14,874 sq. km)
Languages Tetum (Portuguese/Austronesian)*, Bahasa Indonesia, Portuguese*
Religions Roman Catholic 95%, Other (including Muslim and Protestant) 5%
Ethnic mix Papuan groups approx 85%, Indonesian approx 13%, Chinese 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 58%
Calorie consumption 2083 kilocalories

ECUADOR
South America

Official name Republic of Ecuador
Formation 1830 / 1942
Capital Quito
Population 16 million / 150 people per sq mile (58 people per sq km)
Total area 109,483 sq. miles (283,560 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Quechua, other Amerindian languages
Religions Roman Catholic 95%, Protestant, Jewish, and other 5%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 77%, White 11%, Amerindian 7%, Black African 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 93%
Calorie consumption 2477 kilocalories

EGYPT
North Africa

Official name Arab Republic of Egypt
Formation 1936 / 1982
Capital Cairo
Population 83.4 million / 217 people per sq mile (84 people per sq km)
Total area 386,660 sq. miles (1,001,450 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, French, English, Berber
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 90%, Coptic Christian and other 9%, Other Christian 1%
Ethnic mix Egyptian 99%, Nubian, Armenian, Greek, and Berber 1%
Government Transitional regime
Currency Egyptian pound = 100 piastres
Literacy rate 74%
Calorie consumption 3557 kilocalories

EL SALVADOR
Central America

Official name Republic of El Salvador
Formation 1841 / 1841
Capital San Salvador
Population 6.4 million / 800 people per sq mile (309 people per sq km)
Total area 8124 sq. miles (21,040 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*
Religions Roman Catholic 80%, Evangelical 18%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 90%, White 9%, Amerindian 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Salvadorean colón = 100 centavos; and US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 86%
Calorie consumption 2513 kilocalories

EQUATORIAL GUINEA
Central Africa

Official name Republic of Equatorial Guinea
Formation 1968 / 1968
Capital Malabo
Population 800,000 / 74 people per sq mile (29 people per sq km)
Total area 10,830 sq. miles (28,051 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Fang, Bubi, French*
Religions Roman Catholic 90%, Other 10%
Ethnic mix Fang 85%, Other 11%, Bubi 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption Not available

ERITREA
East Africa

Official name State of Eritrea
Formation 1993 / 2002
Capital Asmara
Population 6.5 million / 143 people per sq mile (55 people per sq km)
Total area 46,842 sq. miles (121,320 sq. km)
Languages Tigrinya*, English*, Tigre, Afar, Arabic*, Saho, Bilen, Kunama, Nara, Hadareb
Religions Christian 50%, Muslim 48%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Tigray 50%, Tigre 31%, Other 9%, Afar 5%, Saho 5%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Nakfa = 100 cents
Literacy rate 70%
Calorie consumption 1640 kilocalories

ESTONIA
Northeast Europe

Official name Republic of Estonia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Tallinn
Population 1.3 million / 75 people per sq mile (29 people per sq km)
Total area 17,462 sq. miles (45,226 sq. km)
Languages Estonian*, Russian
Religions Evangelical Lutheran 56%, Orthodox Christian 25%, Other 19%
Ethnic mix Estonian 69%, Russian 25%, Other 4%, Ukrainian 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3214 kilocalories

ETHIOPIA
East Africa

Official name Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
Formation 1896 / 2002
Capital Addis Ababa
Population 96.5 million / 225 people per sq mile (87 people per sq km)
Total area 435,184 sq. miles (1,127,127 sq. km)
Languages Amharic*, Tigrinya, Galla, Sidamo, Somali, English, Arabic
Religions Orthodox Christian 40%, Muslim 40%, Traditional beliefs 15%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix Oromo 40%, Amhara 25%, Other 13%, Sidama 9%, Tigray 7%, Somali 6%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Birr = 100 cents
Literacy rate 39%
Calorie consumption 2131 kilocalories

FIJI
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Republic of Fiji
Formation 1970 / 1970
Capital Suva
Population 900,000 / 128 people per sq mile (49 people per sq km)
Total area 7054 sq. miles (18,270 sq. km)
Languages Fijian, English*, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Telugu
Religions Hindu 38%, Methodist 37%, Roman Catholic 9%, Muslim 8%, Other 8%
Ethnic mix Melanesian 51%, Indian 44%, Other 5%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Fiji dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2930 kilocalories

FINLAND
Northern Europe

Official name Republic of Finland
Formation 1917 / 1947
Capital Helsinki
Population 5.4 million / 46 people per sq mile (18 people per sq km)
Total area 130,127 sq. miles (337,030 sq. km)
Languages Finnish*, Swedish*, Sámi
Religions Evangelical Lutheran 83%, Other 15%, Orthodox Christian 1%, Roman Catholic 1%
Ethnic mix Finnish 93%, Other (including Sámi) 7%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3285 kilocalories

FRANCE
Western Europe

Official name French Republic
Formation 987 / 1919
Capital Paris
Population 64.6 million / 304 people per sq mile (117 people per sq km)
Total area 211,208 sq. miles (547,030 sq. km)
Languages French*, Provençal, German, Breton, Catalan, Basque
Religions Roman Catholic 88%, Muslim 8%, Protestant 2%, Buddhist 1%, Jewish 1%
Ethnic mix French 90%, North African (mainly Algerian) 6%, German (Alsace) 2%, Breton 1%, Other (including Corsicans) 1%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3524 kilocalories

GABON
Central Africa

Official name Gabonese Republic
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Libreville
Population 1.7 million / 17 people per sq mile (7 people per sq km)
Total area 103,346 sq. miles (267,667 sq. km)
Languages Fang, French*, Punu, Sira, Nzebi, Mpongwe
Religions Christian (mainly Roman Catholic) 55%, Traditional beliefs 40%, Other 4%, Muslim 1%
Ethnic mix Fang 26%, Shira-punu 24%, Other 16%, Foreign residents 15%, Nzabi-duma 11%, Mbédé-Teke 8%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 82%
Calorie consumption 2781 kilocalories

GAMBIA
West Africa

Official name Republic of the Gambia
Formation 1965 / 1965
Capital Banjul
Population 1.9 million / 492 people per sq mile (190 people per sq km)
Total area 4363 sq. miles (11,300 sq. km)
Languages Mandinka, Fulani, Wolof, Jola, Soninke, English*
Religions Sunni Muslim 90%, Christian 8%, Traditional beliefs 2%
Ethnic mix Mandinka 42%, Fulani 18%, Wolof 16%, Jola 10%, Serahuli 9%, Other 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency Dalasi = 100 butut
Literacy rate 52%
Calorie consumption 2849 kilocalories

GEORGIA
Southwest Asia

Official name Georgia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Tbilisi
Population 4.3 million / 160 people per sq mile (62 people per sq km)
Total area 26,911 sq. miles (69,700 sq. km)
Languages Georgian*, Russian, Azeri, Armenian, Mingrelian, Ossetian, Abkhazian* (in Abkhazia)
Religions Georgian Orthodox 74%, Muslim 10%, Russian Orthodox 10%, Armenian Apostolic Church (Orthodox) 4%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Georgian 84%, Azeri 6%, Armenian 6%, Russian 2%, Ossetian 1%, Other 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Lari = 100 tetri
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2731 kilocalories

GERMANY
Northern Europe

Official name Federal Republic of Germany
Formation 1871 / 1990
Capital Berlin
Population 82.7 million / 613 people per sq mile (237 people per sq km)
Total area 137,846 sq. miles (357,021 sq. km)
Languages German*, Turkish
Religions Protestant 34%, Roman Catholic 33%, Other 30%, Muslim 3%
Ethnic mix German 92%, Other European 3%, Other 3%, Turkish 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3539 kilocalories

GHANA
West Africa

Official name Republic of Ghana
Formation 1957 / 1957
Capital Accra
Population 26.4 million / 297 people per sq mile (115 people per sq km)
Total area 92,100 sq. miles (238,540 sq. km)
Languages Twi, Fanti, Ewe, Ga, Adangbe, Gurma, Dagomba (Dagbani), English*
Religions Christian 69%, Muslim 16%, Traditional beliefs 9%, Other 6%
Ethnic mix Akan 49%, Mole-Dagbani 17%, Ewe 13%, Other 9%, Ga and Ga-Adangbe 8%, Guan 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency Cedi = 100 pesewas
Literacy rate 72%
Calorie consumption 3003 kilocalories

GREECE
Southeast Europe

Official name Hellenic Republic
Formation 1829 / 1947
Capital Athens
Population 11.1 million / 220 people per sq mile (85 people per sq km)
Total area 50,942 sq. miles (131,940 sq. km)
Languages Greek*, Turkish, Macedonian, Albanian
Religions Orthodox Christian 98%, Muslim 1%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Greek 98%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 97%
Calorie consumption 3433 kilocalories

GRENADA
West Indies

Official name Grenada
Formation 1974 / 1974
Capital St. George's
Population 110,152 / 841 people per sq mile (324 people per sq km)
Total area 131 sq. miles (340 sq. km)
Languages English*, English Creole
Religions Roman Catholic 68%, Anglican 17%, Other 15%
Ethnic mix Black African 82%, Mulatto (mixed race) 13%, East Indian 3%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 96%
Calorie consumption 2453 kilocalories

GUATEMALA
Central America

Official name Republic of Guatemala
Formation 1838 / 1838
Capital Guatemala City
Population 15.9 million / 380 people per sq mile (147 people per sq km)
Total area 42,042 sq. miles (108,890 sq. km)
Languages Quiché, Mam, Cakchiquel, Kekchí, Spanish*
Religions Roman Catholic 65%, Protestant 33%, Other and nonreligious 2%
Ethnic mix Amerindian 60%, Mestizo 30%, Other 10%
Government Presidential system
Currency Quetzal = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 78%
Calorie consumption 2419 kilocalories

GUINEA
West Africa

Official name Republic of Guinea
Formation 1958 / 1958
Capital Conakry
Population 12 million / 126 people per sq mile (49 people per sq km)
Total area 94,925 sq. miles (245,857 sq. km)
Languages Pulaar, Malinké, Soussou, French*
Religions Muslim 85%, Christian 8%, Traditional beliefs 7%
Ethnic mix Peul 40%, Malinké 30%, Soussou 20%, Other 10%
Government Presidential system
Currency Guinea franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 25%
Calorie consumption 2553 kilocalories

GUINEA-BISSAU
West Africa

Official name Republic of Guinea-Bissau
Formation 1974 / 1974
Capital Bissau
Population 1.7 million / 157 people per sq mile (60 people per sq km)
Total area 13,946 sq. miles (36,120 sq. km)
Languages Portuguese Creole, Balante, Fulani, Malinké, Portuguese*
Religions Traditional beliefs 50%, Muslim 40%, Christian 10%
Ethnic mix Balante 30%, Fulani 20%, Other 16%, Mandyako 14%, Mandinka 13%, Papel 7%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 57%
Calorie consumption 2304 kilocalories

GUYANA
South America

Official name Cooperative Republic of Guyana
Formation 1966 / 1966
Capital Georgetown
Population 800,000 / 11 people per sq mile (4 people per sq km)
Total area 83,000 sq. miles (214,970 sq. km)
Languages English Creole, Hindi, Tamil, Amerindian languages, English*
Religions Christian 57%, Hindu 28%, Muslim 10%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix East Indian 43%, Black African 30%, Mixed race 17%, Amerindian 9%, Other 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Guyanese dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 85%
Calorie consumption 2648 kilocalories

HAITI
West Indies

Official name Republic of Haiti
Formation 1804 / 1844
Capital Port-au-Prince
Population 10.5 million / 987 people per sq mile (381 people per sq km)
Total area 10,714 sq. miles (27,750 sq. km)
Languages French Creole*, French*
Religions Roman Catholic 55%, Protestant 28%, Other (including Voodoo) 16%, Nonreligious 1%
Ethnic mix Black African 95%, Mulatto (mixed race) and European 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency Gourde = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 49%
Calorie consumption 2091 kilocalories

HONDURAS
Central America

Official name Republic of Honduras
Formation 1838 / 1838
Capital Tegucigalpa
Population 8.3 million / 192 people per sq mile (74 people per sq km)
Total area 43,278 sq. miles (112,090 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Garífuna (Carib), English Creole
Religions Roman Catholic 97%, Protestant 3%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 90%, Black African 5%, Amerindian 4%, White 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Lempira = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 85%
Calorie consumption 2651 kilocalories

HUNGARY
Central Europe

Official name Hungary
Formation 1918 / 1947
Capital Budapest
Population 9.9 million / 278 people per sq mile (107 people per sq km)
Total area 35,919 sq. miles (93,030 sq. km)
Languages Hungarian (Magyar)*
Religions Roman Catholic 52%, Calvinist 16%, Other 15%, Nonreligious 14%, Lutheran 3%
Ethnic mix Magyar 90%, Roma 4%, German 3%, Serb 2%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Forint = 100 fillér
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2968 kilocalories

ICELAND
Northwest Europe

Official name Republic of Iceland
Formation 1944 / 1944
Capital Reykjavík
Population 300,000 / 8 people per sq mile (3 people per sq km)
Total area 39,768 sq. miles (103,000 sq. km)
Languages Icelandic*
Religions Evangelical Lutheran 84%, Other (mostly Christian) 10%, Roman Catholic 3%, Nonreligious 3%
Ethnic mix Icelandic 94%, Other 5%, Danish 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Icelandic króna = 100 aurar
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3339 kilocalories

INDIA
South Asia

Official name Republic of India
Formation 1947 / 1947
Capital New Delhi
Population 1.27 billion / 1104 people per sq mile (426 people per sq km)
Total area 1,269,339 sq. miles (3,287,590 sq. km)
Languages Hindi*, English*, Urdu, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Bihari, Gujarati, Kanarese
Religions Hindu 81%, Muslim 13%, Christian 2%, Sikh 2%, Buddhist 1%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Indo-Aryan 72%, Dravidian 25%, Mongoloid and other 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Indian rupee = 100 paise
Literacy rate 63%
Calorie consumption 2459 kilocalories

INDONESIA
Southeast Asia

Official name Republic of Indonesia
Formation 1949 / 1999
Capital Jakarta
Population 253 million / 364 people per sq mile (141 people per sq km)
Total area 741,096 sq. miles (1,919,440 sq. km)
Languages Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Bahasa Indonesia*, Dutch
Religions Sunni Muslim 86%, Protestant 6%, Roman Catholic 3%, Hindu 2%, Other 2%, Buddhist 1%
Ethnic mix Javanese 41%, Other 29%, Sundanese 15%, Coastal Malays 12%, Madurese 3%
Government Presidential system
Currency Rupiah = 100 sen
Literacy rate 93%
Calorie consumption 2777 kilocalories

IRAN
Southwest Asia

Official name Islamic Republic of Iran
Formation 1502 / 1990
Capital Tehran
Population 78.5 million / 124 people per sq mile (48 people per sq km)
Total area 636,293 sq. miles (1,648,000 sq. km)
Languages Farsi*, Azeri, Luri, Gilaki, Mazanderani, Kurdish, Turkmen, Arabic, Baluchi
Religions Shi'a Muslim 89%, Sunni Muslim 9%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Persian 51%, Azari 24%, Other 10%, Lur and Bakhtiari 8%, Kurdish 7%
Government Islamic theocracy
Currency Iranian rial = 100 dinars
Literacy rate 84%
Calorie consumption 3058 kilocalories

IRAQ
Southwest Asia

Official name Republic of Iraq
Formation 1932 / 1990
Capital Baghdad
Population 34.8 million / 206 people per sq mile (80 people per sq km)
Total area 168,753 sq. miles (437,072 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Kurdish*, Turkic languages, Armenian, Assyrian
Religions Shi'a Muslim 60%, Sunni Muslim 35%, Other (including Christian) 5%
Ethnic mix Arab 80%, Kurdish 15%, Turkmen 3%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency New Iraqi dinar = 1000 fils
Literacy rate 79%
Calorie consumption 2489 kilocalories

IRELAND
Northwest Europe

Official name Ireland
Formation 1922 / 1922
Capital Dublin
Population 4.7 million / 177 people per sq mile (68 people per sq km)
Total area 27,135 sq. miles (70,280 sq. km)
Languages English*, Irish*
Religions Roman Catholic 87%, Other and nonreligious 10%, Anglican 3%
Ethnic mix Irish 99%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3591 kilocalories

ISRAEL
Southwest Asia

Official name State of Israel
Formation 1948 / 1994
Capital Jerusalem (not internationally recognized)
Population 7.8 million / 994 people per sq mile (384 people per sq km)
Total area 8019 sq. miles (20,770 sq. km)
Languages Hebrew*, Arabic*, Yiddish, German, Russian, Polish, Romanian, Persian
Religions Jewish 76%, Muslim (mainly Sunni) 16%, Other 4%, Druze 2%, Christian 2%
Ethnic mix Jewish 76%, Arab 20%, Other 4%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Shekel = 100 agorot
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 3619 kilocalories

ITALY
Southern Europe

Official name Italian Republic
Formation 1861 / 1947
Capital Rome
Population 61.1 million / 538 people per sq mile (208 people per sq km)
Total area 116,305 sq. miles (301,230 sq. km)
Languages Italian*, German, French, Rhaeto-Romanic, Sardinian
Religions Roman Catholic 85%, Other and nonreligious 13%, Muslim 2%
Ethnic mix Italian 94%, Other 4%, Sardinian 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3539 kilocalories

IVORY COAST
West Africa

Official name Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Yamoussoukro
Population 20.8 million / 169 people per sq mile (65 people per sq km)
Total area 124,502 sq. miles (322,460 sq. km)
Languages Akan, French*, Krou, Voltaïque
Religions Muslim 38%, Traditional beliefs 25%, Roman Catholic 25%, Other 6%, Protestant 6%
Ethnic mix Akan 42%, Voltaïque 18%, Mandé du Nord 17%, Krou 11%, Mandé du Sud 10%, Other 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 41%
Calorie consumption 2799 kilocalories

JAMAICA
West Indies

Official name Jamaica
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Kingston
Population 2.8 million / 670 people per sq mile (259 people per sq km)
Total area 4243 sq. miles (10,990 sq. km)
Languages English Creole, English*
Religions Other and nonreligious 45%, Other Protestant 20%, Church of God 18%, Baptist 10%, Anglican 7%
Ethnic mix Black 91%, Mulatto (mixed race) 7%, European and Chinese 1%, East Indian 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Jamaican dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 88%
Calorie consumption 2746 kilocalories

JAPAN
East Asia

Official name Japan
Formation 1590 / 1972
Capital Tokyo
Population 127 million / 874 people per sq mile (337 people per sq km)
Total area 145,882 sq. miles (377,835 sq. km)
Languages Japanese*, Korean, Chinese
Religions Shinto and Buddhist 76%, Buddhist 16%, Other (including Christian) 8%
Ethnic mix Japanese 99%, Other (mainly Korean) 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Yen = 100 sen
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2719 kilocalories

JORDAN
Southwest Asia

Official name Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Formation 1946 / 1967
Capital Amman
Population 7.5 million / 218 people per sq mile (84 people per sq km)
Total area 35,637 sq. miles (92,300 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*
Religions Sunni Muslim 92%, Christian 6%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Arab 98%, Circassian 1%, Armenian 1%
Government Monarchy
Currency Jordanian dinar = 1000 fils
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 3149 kilocalories

KAZAKHSTAN
Central Asia

Official name Republic of Kazakhstan
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Astana
Population 16.6 million / 16 people per sq mile (6 people per sq km)
Total area 1,049,150 sq. miles (2,717,300 sq. km)
Languages Kazakh*, Russian, Ukrainian, German, Uzbek, Tatar, Uighur
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 47%, Orthodox Christian 44%, Other 7%, Protestant 2%
Ethnic mix Kazakh 57%, Russian 27%, Other 8%, Uzbek 3%, Ukrainian 3%, German 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Tenge = 100 tiyn
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3107 kilocalories

KENYA
East Africa

Official name Republic of Kenya
Formation 1963 / 1963
Capital Nairobi
Population 45.5 million / 208 people per sq mile (80 people per sq km)
Total area 224,961 sq. miles (582,650 sq. km)
Languages Kiswahili*, English*, Kikuyu, Luo, Kalenjin, Kamba
Religions Christian 80%, Muslim 10%, Traditional beliefs 9%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Other 28%, Kikuyu 22%, Luo 14%, Luhya 14%, Kalenjin 11%, Kamba 11%
Government Presidential system
Currency Kenya shilling = 100 cents
Literacy rate 72%
Calorie consumption 2206 kilocalories

KIRIBATI
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Republic of Kiribati
Formation 1979 / 1979
Capital Tarawa Atoll
Population 104,488 / 381 people per sq mile (147 people per sq km)
Total area 277 sq. miles (717 sq. km)
Languages English*, Kiribati
Religions Roman Catholic 55%, Kiribati Protestant Church 36%, Other 9%
Ethnic mix Micronesian 99%, Other 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Australian dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3022 kilocalories

KOSOVO (not yet recognised)
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Kosovo
Formation 2008 / 2008
Capital Pristina
Population 1.9 million / 451 people per sq mile (174 people per sq km)
Total area 4212 sq. miles (10,908 sq. km)
Languages Albanian*, Serbian*, Bosniak, Gorani, Roma, Turkish
Religions Muslim 92%, Roman Catholic 4%, Orthodox Christian 4%
Ethnic mix Albanian 92%, Serb 4%, Bosniak and Gorani 2%, Turkish 1%, Roma 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 92%
Calorie consumption Not available

KUWAIT
Southwest Asia

Official name State of Kuwait
Formation 1961 / 1961
Capital Kuwait City
Population 3.5 million / 509 people per sq mile (196 people per sq km)
Total area 6880 sq. miles (17,820 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, English
Religions Sunni Muslim 45%, Shi'a Muslim 40%, Christian, Hindu, and other 15%
Ethnic mix Kuwaiti 45%, Other Arab 35%, South Asian 9%, Other 7%, Iranian 4%
Government Monarchy
Currency Kuwaiti dinar = 1000 fils
Literacy rate 96%
Calorie consumption 3471 kilocalories

KYRGYZSTAN
Central Asia

Official name Kyrgyz Republic
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Bishkek
Population 5.6 million / 73 people per sq mile (28 people per sq km)
Total area 76,641 sq. miles (198,500 sq. km)
Languages Kyrgyz*, Russian*, Uzbek, Tatar, Ukrainian
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 70%, Orthodox Christian 30%
Ethnic mix Kyrgyz 69%, Uzbek 14%, Russian 9%, Other 6%, Dungan 1%, Uighur 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Som = 100 tyiyn
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2828 kilocalories

LAOS
Southeast Asia

Official name Lao People's Democratic Republic
Formation 1953 / 1953
Capital Vientiane
Population 6.9 million / 77 people per sq mile (30 people per sq km)
Total area 91,428 sq. miles (236,800 sq. km)
Languages Lao*, Mon-Khmer, Yao, Vietnamese, Chinese, French
Religions Buddhist 65%, Other (including animist) 34%, Christian 1%
Ethnic mix Lao Loum 66%, Lao Theung 30%, Lao Soung 2%, Other 2%
Government One-party state
Currency Kip = 100 at
Literacy rate 73%
Calorie consumption 2356 kilocalories

LATVIA
Northeast Europe

Official name Republic of Latvia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Riga
Population 2 million / 80 people per sq mile (31 people per sq km)
Total area 24,938 sq. miles (64,589 sq. km)
Languages Latvian*, Russian
Religions Other 43%, Lutheran 24%, Roman Catholic 18%, O rthodox Christian 15%
Ethnic mix Latvian 62%, Russian 27%, Other 4%, Belarussian 3%, Ukrainian 2%, Polish 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3293 kilocalories

LEBANON
Southwest Asia

Official name Lebanese Republic
Formation 1941 / 1941
Capital Beirut
Population 5 million / 1266 people per sq mile (489 people per sq km)
Total area 4015 sq. miles (10,400 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, French, Armenian, Assyrian
Religions Muslim 60%, Christian 39%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Arab 95%, Armenian 4%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Lebanese pound = 100 piastres
Literacy rate 90%
Calorie consumption 3181 kilocalories

LESOTHO
Southern Africa

Official name Kingdom of Lesotho
Formation 1966 / 1966
Capital Maseru
Population 2.1 million / 179 people per sq mile (69 people per sq km)
Total area 11,720 sq. miles (30,355 sq. km)
Languages English*, Sesotho*, isiZulu
Religions Christian 90%, Traditional beliefs 10%
Ethnic mix Sotho 99%, European and Asian 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Loti = 100 lisente; and South African rand = 100 cents
Literacy rate 76%
Calorie consumption 2595 kilocalories

LIBERIA
West Africa

Official name Republic of Liberia
Formation 1847 / 1847
Capital Monrovia
Population 4.4 million / 118 people per sq mile (46 people per sq km)
Total area 43,000 sq. miles (111,370 sq. km)
Languages Kpelle, Vai, Bassa, Kru, Grebo, Kissi, Gola, Loma, English*
Religions Christian 40%, Traditional beliefs 40%, Muslim 20%
Ethnic mix Indigenous tribes (12 groups) 49%, Kpellé 20%, Bassa 16%, Gio 8%, Krou 7%
Government Presidential system
Currency Liberian dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 43%
Calorie consumption 2251 kilocalories

LIBYA
North Africa

Official name State of Libya
Formation 1951 / 1951
Capital Tripoli
Population 6.3 million / 9 people per sq mile (4 people per sq km)
Total area 679,358 sq. miles (1,759,540 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Tuareg
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 97%, Other 3%
Ethnic mix Arab and Berber 97%, Other 3%
Government Transitional regime
Currency Libyan dinar = 1000 dirhams
Literacy rate 90%
Calorie consumption 3211 kilocalories

LIECHTENSTEIN
Central Europe

Official name Principality of Liechtenstein
Formation 1719 / 1719
Capital Vaduz
Population 37,313 / 602 people per sq mile (233 people per sq km)
Total area 62 sq. miles (160 sq. km)
Languages German*, Alemannish dialect, Italian
Religions Roman Catholic 79%, Other 13%, Protestant 8%
Ethnic mix Liechtensteiner 66%, Other 12%, Swiss 10%, Austrian 6%, German 3%, Italian 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Swiss franc = 100 rappen/centimes
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

LITHUANIA
Northeast Europe

Official name Republic of Lithuania
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Vilnius
Population 3 million / 119 people per sq mile (46 people per sq km)
Total area 25,174 sq. miles (65,200 sq. km)
Languages Lithuanian*, Russian
Religions Roman Catholic 77%, Other 17%, Russian Orthodox 4%, Protestant 1%, Old believers 1%
Ethnic mix Lithuanian 85%, Polish 7%, Russian 6%, Belarussian 1%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3463 kilocalories

LUXEMBOURG
Northwest Europe

Official name Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
Formation 1867 / 1867
Capital Luxembourg-Ville
Population 500,000 / 501 people per sq mile (193 people per sq km)
Total area 998 sq. miles (2586 sq. km)
Languages Luxembourgish*, German*, French*
Religions Roman Catholic 97%, Protestant, Orthodox Christian, and Jewish 3%
Ethnic mix Luxembourger 62%, Foreign residents 38%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3568 kilocalories

MACEDONIA
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Macedonia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Skopje
Population 2.1 million / 212 people per sq mile (82 people per sq km)
Total area 9781 sq. miles (25,333 sq. km)
Languages Macedonian*, Albanian*, Turkish, Romani, Serbian
Religions Orthodox Christian 65%, Muslim 29%, Roman Catholic 4%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Macedonian 64%, Albanian 25%, Turkish 4%, Roma 3%, Serb 2%, Other 2%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Macedonian denar = 100 deni
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2923 kilocalories

MADAGASCAR
Indian Ocean

Official name Republic of Madagascar
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Antananarivo
Population 23.6 million / 105 people per sq mile (41 people per sq km)
Total area 226,656 sq. miles (587,040 sq. km)
Languages Malagasy*, French*, English*
Religions Traditional beliefs 52%, Christian (mainly Roman Catholic) 41%, Muslim 7%
Ethnic mix Other Malay 46%, Merina 26%, Betsimisaraka 15%, Betsileo 12%, Other 1%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Ariary = 5 iraimbilanja
Literacy rate 64%
Calorie consumption 2052 kilocalories

MALAWI
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Malawi
Formation 1964 / 1964
Capital Lilongwe
Population 16.8 million / 463 people per sq mile (179 people per sq km)
Total area 45,745 sq. miles (118,480 sq. km)
Languages Chewa, Lomwe, Yao, Ngoni, English*
Religions Protestant 55%, Roman Catholic 20%, Muslim 20%, Traditional beliefs 5%
Ethnic mix Bantu 99%, Other 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Malawi kwacha = 100 tambala
Literacy rate 61%
Calorie consumption 2334 kilocalories

MALAYSIA
Southeast Asia

Official name Malaysia
Formation 1963 / 1965
Capital Kuala Lumpur; Putrajaya (administrative)
Population 30.2 million / 238 people per sq mile (92 people per sq km)
Total area 127,316 sq. miles (329,750 sq. km)
Languages Bahasa Malaysia*, Malay, Chinese, Tamil, English
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 61%, Buddhist 19%, Christian 9%, Hindu 6%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix Malay 53%, Chinese 26%, Indigenous tribes 12%, Indian 8%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Ringgit = 100 sen
Literacy rate 93%
Calorie consumption 2855 kilocalories

MALDIVES
Indian Ocean

Official name Republic of Maldives
Formation 1965 / 1965
Capital Male'
Population 400,000 / 3448 people per sq mile (1333 people per sq km)
Total area 116 sq. miles (300 sq. km)
Languages Dhivehi (Maldivian), Sinhala, Tamil, Arabic
Religions Sunni Muslim 100%
Ethnic mix Arab–Sinhalese–Malay 100%
Government Presidential system
Currency Rufiyaa = 100 laari
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2722 kilocalories

MALI
West Africa

Official name Republic of Mali
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Bamako
Population 15.8 million / 34 people per sq mile (13 people per sq km)
Total area 478,764 sq. miles (1,240,000 sq. km)
Languages Bambara, Fulani, Senufo, Soninke, French*
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 90%, Traditional beliefs 6%, Christian 4%
Ethnic mix Bambara 52%, Other 14%, Fulani 11%, Saracolé 7%, Soninka 7%, Tuareg 5%, Mianka 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 34%
Calorie consumption 2833 kilocalories

MALTA
Southern Europe

Official name Republic of Malta
Formation 1964 / 1964
Capital Valletta
Population 400,000 / 3226 people per sq mile (1250 people per sq km)
Total area 122 sq. miles (316 sq. km)
Languages Maltese*, English*
Religions Roman Catholic 98%, Other and nonreligious 2%
Ethnic mix Maltese 96%, Other 4%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 92%
Calorie consumption 3389 kilocalories

MARSHALL ISLANDS
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Republic of the Marshall Islands
Formation 1986 / 1986
Capital Majuro
Population 70,983 / 1014 people per sq mile (392 people per sq km)
Total area 70 sq. miles (181 sq. km)
Languages Marshallese*, English*, Japanese, German
Religions Protestant 90%, Roman Catholic 8%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Micronesian 90%, Other 10%
Government Presidential system
Currency US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 91%
Calorie consumption Not available

MAURITANIA
West Africa

Official name Islamic Republic of Mauritania
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Nouakchott
Population 4 million / 10 people per sq mile (4 people per sq km)
Total area 397,953 sq. miles (1,030,700 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Hassaniyah Arabic, Wolof, French
Religions Sunni Muslim 100%
Ethnic mix Maure 81%, Wolof 7%, Tukolor 5%, Other 4%, Soninka 3%
Government Presidential system
Currency Ouguiya = 5 khoums
Literacy rate 46%
Calorie consumption 2791 kilocalories

MAURITIUS
Indian Ocean

Official name Republic of Mauritius
Formation 1968 / 1968
Capital Port Louis
Population 1.2 million / 1671 people per sq mile (645 people per sq km)
Total area 718 sq. miles (1860 sq. km)
Languages French Creole, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Chinese, English*, French
Religions Hindu 48%, Roman Catholic 24%, Muslim 17%, Protestant 9%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Indo-Mauritian 68%, Creole 27%, Sino-Mauritian 3%, Franco-Mauritian 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Mauritian rupee = 100 cents
Literacy rate 89%
Calorie consumption 3055 kilocalories

MEXICO
North America

Official name United Mexican States
Formation 1836 / 1848
Capital Mexico City
Population 124 million / 168 people per sq mile (65 people per sq km)
Total area 761,602 sq. miles (1,972,550 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Nahuatl, Mayan, Zapotec, Mixtec, Otomi, Totonac, Tzotzil, Tzeltal
Religions Roman Catholic 77%, Other 14%, Protestant 6%, Nonreligious 3%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 60%, Amerindian 30%, European 9%, Other 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Mexican peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 3072 kilocalories

MICRONESIA
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Federated States of Micronesia
Formation 1986 / 1986
Capital Palikir (Pohnpei Island)
Population 105,681 / 390 people per sq mile (151 people per sq km)
Total area 271 sq. miles (702 sq. km)
Languages Trukese, Pohnpeian, Kosraean, Yapese, English*
Religions Roman Catholic 50%, Protestant 47%, Other 3%
Ethnic mix Chuukese 49%, Pohnpeian 24%, Other 14%, Kosraean 6%, Yapese 5%, Asian 2%
Government Nonparty system
Currency US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 81%
Calorie consumption Not available

MOLDOVA
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Moldova
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Chisinau
Population 3.5 million / 269 people per sq mile (104 people per sq km)
Total area 13,067 sq. miles (33,843 sq. km)
Languages Moldovan*, Ukrainian, Russian
Religions Orthodox Christian 93%, Other 6%, Baptist 1%
Ethnic mix Moldovan 84%, Ukrainian 7%, Gagauz 5%, Russian 2%, Bulgarian 1%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Moldovan leu = 100 bani
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2837 kilocalories

MONACO
Southern Europe

Official name Principality of Monaco
Formation 1861 / 1861
Capital Monaco-Ville
Population 36,950 / 49,267 people per sq mile (18,949 people per sq km)
Total area 0.75 sq. miles (1.95 sq. km)
Languages French*, Italian, Monégasque, English
Religions Roman Catholic 89%, Protestant 6%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix French 47%, Other 21%, Italian 16%, Monégasque 16%
Government Mixed monarchical–parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

MONGOLIA
East Asia

Official name Mongolia
Formation 1924 / 1924
Capital Ulan Bator
Population 2.9 million / 5 people per sq mile (2 people per sq km)
Total area 604,247 sq. miles (1,565,000 sq. km)
Languages Khalkha Mongolian, Kazakh, Chinese, Russian
Religions Tibetan Buddhist 50%, Nonreligious 40%, Shamanist and Christian 6%, Muslim 4%
Ethnic mix Khalkh 95%, Kazakh 4%, Other 1%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Tugrik (tögrög) = 100 möngö
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2463 kilocalories

MONTENEGRO
Southeast Europe

Official name Montenegro
Formation 2006 / 2006
Capital Podgorica
Population 600,000 / 113 people per sq mile (43 people per sq km)
Total area 5332 sq. miles (13,812 sq. km)
Languages Montenegrin*, Serbian, Albanian, Bosniak, Croatian
Religions Orthodox Christian 74%, Muslim 18%, Roman Catholic 4%, Other 4%
Ethnic mix Montenegrin 43%, Serb 32%, Other 12%, Bosniak 8%, Albanian 5%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 3568 kilocalories

MOROCCO
North Africa

Official name Kingdom of Morocco
Formation 1956 / 1969
Capital Rabat
Population 35.5 million / 194 people per sq mile (75 people per sq km)
Total area 172,316 sq. miles (446,300 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Tamazight (Berber), French, Spanish
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 99%, Other (mostly Christian) 1%
Ethnic mix Arab 70%, Berber 29%, European 1%
Government Mixed monarchical–parliamentary system
Currency Moroccan dirham = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 67%
Calorie consumption 3334 kilocalories

MOZAMBIQUE
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Mozambique
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital Maputo
Population 26.5 million / 88 people per sq mile (34 people per sq km)
Total area 309,494 sq. miles (801,590 sq. km)
Languages Makua, Xitsonga, Sena, Lomwe, Portuguese*
Religions Traditional beliefs 56%, Christian 30%, Muslim 14%
Ethnic mix Makua Lomwe 47%, Tsonga 23%, Malawi 12%, Shona 11%, Yao 4%, Other 3%
Government Presidential system
Currency New metical = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 51%
Calorie consumption 2283 kilocalories

MYANMAR (BURMA)
Southeast Asia

Official name Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Formation 1948 / 1948
Capital Nay Pyi Taw
Population 53.7 million / 212 people per sq mile (82 people per sq km)
Total area 261,969 sq. miles (678,500 sq. km)
Languages Myanmar (Burmese)*, Shan, Karen, Rakhine, Chin, Yangbye, Kachin, Mon
Religions Buddhist 89%, Christian 4%, Muslim 4%, Other 2%, Animist 1%
Ethnic mix Burman (Bamah) 68%, Other 12%, Shan 9%, Karen 7%, Rakhine 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency Kyat = 100 pyas
Literacy rate 93%
Calorie consumption 2571 kilocalories

NAMIBIA
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Namibia
Formation 1990 / 1994
Capital Windhoek
Population 2.3 million / 7 people per sq mile (3 people per sq km)
Total area 318,694 sq. miles (825,418 sq. km)
Languages Ovambo, Kavango, English*, Bergdama, German, Afrikaans
Religions Christian 90%, Traditional beliefs 10%
Ethnic mix Ovambo 50%, Other tribes 22%, Kavango 9%, Damara 7%, Herero 7%, Other 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency Namibian dollar = 100 cents; and South African rand = 100 cents
Literacy rate 76%
Calorie consumption 2086 kilocalories

NAURU
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Republic of Nauru
Formation 1968 / 1968
Capital None
Population 9488 / 1171 people per sq mile (452 people per sq km)
Total area 8.1 sq. miles (21 sq. km)
Languages Nauruan*, Kiribati, Chinese, Tuvaluan, English
Religions Nauruan Congregational Church 60%, Roman Catholic 35%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix Nauruan 93%, Chinese 5%, European 1%, Other Pacific islanders 1%
Government Nonparty system
Currency Australian dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption Not available

NEPAL
South Asia

Official name Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
Formation 1769 / 1769
Capital Kathmandu
Population 28.1 million / 532 people per sq mile (205 people per sq km)
Total area 54,363 sq. miles (140,800 sq. km)
Languages Nepali*, Maithili, Bhojpuri
Religions Hindu 81%, Buddhist 11%, Muslim 4%, Other (including Christian) 4%
Ethnic mix Other 52%, Chhetri 16%, Hill Brahman 13%, Tharu 7%, Magar 7%, Tamang 5%
Government Transitional regime
Currency Nepalese rupee = 100 paisa
Literacy rate 57%
Calorie consumption 2673 kilocalories

NETHERLANDS
Northwest Europe

Official name Kingdom of the Netherlands
Formation 1648 / 1839
Capital Amsterdam; The Hague (administrative)
Population 16.8 million / 1283 people per sq mile (495 people per sq km)
Total area 16,033 sq. miles (41,526 sq. km)
Languages Dutch*, Frisian
Religions Roman Catholic 36%, Other 34%, Protestant 27%, Muslim 3%
Ethnic mix Dutch 82%, Other 12%, Surinamese 2%, Turkish 2%, Moroccan 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3147 kilocalories

NEW ZEALAND
Australasia & Oceania

Official name New Zealand
Formation 1947 / 1947
Capital Wellington
Population 4.6 million / 44 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 103,737 sq. miles (268,680 sq. km)
Languages English*, Maori*
Religions Anglican 24%, Other 22%, Presbyterian 18%, Nonreligious 16%, Roman Catholic 15%, Methodist 5%
Ethnic mix European 75%, Maori 15%, Other 7%, Samoan 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency New Zealand dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3170 kilocalories

NICARAGUA
Central America

Official name Republic of Nicaragua
Formation 1838 / 1838
Capital Managua
Population 6.2 million / 135 people per sq mile (52 people per sq km)
Total area 49,998 sq. miles (129,494 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, English Creole, Miskito
Religions Roman Catholic 80%, Protestant Evangelical 17%, Other 3%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 69%, White 17%, Black 9%, Amerindian 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency Córdoba oro = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 78%
Calorie consumption 2564 kilocalories

NIGER
West Africa

Official name Republic of Niger
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Niamey
Population 18.5 million / 38 people per sq mile (15 people per sq km)
Total area 489,188 sq. miles (1,267,000 sq. km)
Languages Hausa, Djerma, Fulani, Tuareg, Teda, French*
Religions Muslim 99%, Other (including Christian) 1%
Ethnic mix Hausa 53%, Djerma and Songhai 21%, Tuareg 11%, Fulani 7%, Kanuri 6%, Other 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 16%
Calorie consumption 2546 kilocalories

NIGERIA
West Africa

Official name Federal Republic of Nigeria
Formation 1960 / 1961
Capital Abuja
Population 179 million / 508 people per sq mile (196 people per sq km)
Total area 356,667 sq. miles (923,768 sq. km)
Languages Hausa, English*, Yoruba, Ibo
Religions Muslim 50%, Christian 40%, Traditional beliefs 10%
Ethnic mix Other 29%, Hausa 21%, Yoruba 21%, Ibo 18%, Fulani 11%
Government Presidential system
Currency Naira = 100 kobo
Literacy rate 51%
Calorie consumption 2700 kilocalories

NORTH KOREA
East Asia

Official name Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Formation 1948 / 1953
Capital Pyongyang
Population 25 million / 538 people per sq mile (208 people per sq km)
Total area 46,540 sq. miles (120,540 sq. km)
Languages Korean*
Religions Atheist 100%
Ethnic mix Korean 100%
Government One-party state
Currency North Korean won = 100 chon
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2094 kilocalories

NORWAY
Northern Europe

Official name Kingdom of Norway
Formation 1905 / 1905
Capital Oslo
Population 5.1 million / 43 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 125,181 sq. miles (324,220 sq. km)
Languages Norwegian* (Bokmål "book language" and Nynorsk "new Norsk"), Sámi
Religions Evangelical Lutheran 88%, Other and nonreligious 8%, Muslim 2%, Pentecostal 1%, Roman Catholic 1%
Ethnic mix Norwegian 93%, Other 6%, Sámi 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Norwegian krone = 100 øre
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3484 kilocalories

OMAN
Southwest Asia

Official name Sultanate of Oman
Formation 1951 / 1951
Capital Muscat
Population 3.9 million / 48 people per sq mile (18 people per sq km)
Total area 82,031 sq. miles (212,460 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Baluchi, Farsi, Hindi, Punjabi
Religions Ibadi Muslim 75%, Other Muslim and Hindu 25%
Ethnic mix Arab 88%, Baluchi 4%, Persian 3%, Indian and Pakistani 3%, African 2%
Government Monarchy
Currency Omani rial = 1000 baisa
Literacy rate 87%
Calorie consumption 3143 kilocalories

PAKISTAN
South Asia

Official name Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Formation 1947 / 1971
Capital Islamabad
Population 185 million / 622 people per sq mile (240 people per sq km)
Total area 310,401 sq. miles (803,940 sq. km)
Languages Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashtu, Urdu*, Baluchi, Brahui
Religions Sunni Muslim 77%, Shi'a Muslim 20%, Hindu 2%, Christian 1%
Ethnic mix Punjabi 56%, Pathan (Pashtun) 15%, Sindhi 14%, Mohajir 7%, Baluchi 4%, Other 4%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Pakistani rupee = 100 paisa
Literacy rate 55%
Calorie consumption 2440 kilocalories

PALAU
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Republic of Palau
Formation 1994 / 1994
Capital Melekeok
Population 21,186 / 108 people per sq mile (42 people per sq km)
Total area 177 sq. miles (458 sq. km)
Languages Palauan*, English*, Japanese, Angaur, Tobi, Sonsorolese
Religions Christian 66%, Modekngei 34%
Ethnic mix Palauan 74%, Filipino 16%, Other 6%, Chinese and other Asian 4%
Government Nonparty system
Currency US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

PANAMA
Central America

Official name Republic of Panama
Formation 1903 / 1903
Capital Panama City
Population 3.9 million / 133 people per sq mile (51 people per sq km)
Total area 30,193 sq. miles (78,200 sq. km)
Languages English Creole, Spanish*, Amerindian languages, Chibchan languages
Religions Roman Catholic 84%, Protestant 15%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 70%, Black 14%, White 10%, Amerindian 6%
Government Presidential system
Currency Balboa = 100 centésimos; and US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2733 kilocalories

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Independent State of Papua New Guinea
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital Port Moresby
Population 7.5 million / 43 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 178,703 sq. miles (462,840 sq. km)
Languages Pidgin English, Papuan, English*, Motu, 800 (est.) native languages
Religions Protestant 60%, Roman Catholic 37%, Other 3%
Ethnic mix Melanesian and mixed race 100%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Kina = 100 toea
Literacy rate 63%
Calorie consumption 2193 kilocalories

PARAGUAY
South America

Official name Republic of Paraguay
Formation 1811 / 1938
Capital Asunción
Population 6.9 million / 45 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 157,046 sq. miles (406,750 sq. km)
Languages Guaraní*, Spanish*, German
Religions Roman Catholic 90%, Protestant (including Mennonite) 10%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 91%, Other 7%, Amerindian 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Guaraní = 100 céntimos
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2589 kilocalories

PERU
South America

Official name Republic of Peru
Formation 1824 / 1941
Capital Lima
Population 30.8 million / 62 people per sq mile (24 people per sq km)
Total area 496,223 sq. miles (1,285,200 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Quechua*, Aymara
Religions Roman Catholic 81%, Other 19%
Ethnic mix Amerindian 45%, Mestizo 37%, White 15%, Other 3%
Government Presidential system
Currency New sol = 100 céntimos
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2700 kilocalories

PHILIPPINES
Southeast Asia

Official name Republic of the Philippines
Formation 1946 / 1946
Capital Manila
Population 100 million / 870 people per sq mile (336 people per sq km)
Total area 115,830 sq. miles (300,000 sq. km)
Languages Filipino*, English*, Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon, many other local languages
Religions Roman Catholic 81%, Protestant 9%, Muslim 5%, Other (including Buddhist) 5%
Ethnic mix Other 34%, Tagalog 28%, Cebuano 13%, Ilocano 9%, Hiligaynon 8%, Bisaya 8%
Government Presidential system
Currency Philippine peso = 100 centavos
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption 2570 kilocalories

POLAND
Northern Europe

Official name Republic of Poland
Formation 1918 / 1945
Capital Warsaw
Population 38.2 million / 325 people per sq mile (125 people per sq km)
Total area 120,728 sq. miles (312,685 sq. km)
Languages Polish*
Religions Roman Catholic 93%, Other and nonreligious 5%, Orthodox Christian 2%
Ethnic mix Polish 98%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Zloty = 100 groszy
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3485 kilocalories

PORTUGAL
Southwest Europe

Official name Portuguese Republic
Formation 1139 / 1640
Capital Lisbon
Population 10.6 million / 299 people per sq mile (115 people per sq km)
Total area 35,672 sq. miles (92,391 sq. km)
Languages Portuguese*
Religions Roman Catholic 92%, Protestant 4%, Nonreligious 3%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Portuguese 98%, African and other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 3456 kilocalories

QATAR
Southwest Asia

Official name State of Qatar
Formation 1971 / 1971
Capital Doha
Population 2.3 million / 542 people per sq mile (209 people per sq km)
Total area 4416 sq. miles (11,437 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 95%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix Qatari 20%, Indian 20%, Other Arab 20%, Nepalese 13%, Filipino 10%, Other 10%, Pakistani 7%
Government Monarchy
Currency Qatar riyal = 100 dirhams
Literacy rate 97%
Calorie consumption Not available

ROMANIA
Southeast Europe

Official name Romania
Formation 1878 / 1947
Capital Bucharest
Population 21.6 million / 243 people per sq mile (94 people per sq km)
Total area 91,699 sq. miles (237,500 sq. km)
Languages Romanian*, Hungarian (Magyar), Romani, German
Religions Romanian Orthodox 87%, Protestant 5%, Roman Catholic 5%, Greek Orthodox 1%, Greek Catholic (Uniate) 1%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Romanian 89%, Magyar 7%, Roma 3%, Other 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency New Romanian leu = 100 bani
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3363 kilocalories

RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Europe / Asia

Official name Russian Federation
Formation 1480 / 1991
Capital Moscow
Population 143 million / 22 people per sq mile (8 people per sq km)
Total area 6,592,735 sq. miles (17,075,200 sq. km)
Languages Russian*, Tatar, Ukrainian, Chavash, various other national languages
Religions Orthodox Christian 75%, Muslim 14%, Other 11%
Ethnic mix Russian 80%, Other 12%, Tatar 4%, Ukrainian 2%, Bashkir 1%, Chavash 1%
Government Mixed Presidential–Parliamentary system
Currency Russian rouble = 100 kopeks
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3358 kilocalories

RWANDA
Central Africa

Official name Republic of Rwanda
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Kigali
Population 12.1 million / 1256 people per sq mile (485 people per sq km)
Total area 10,169 sq. miles (26,338 sq. km)
Languages Kinyarwanda*, French*, Kiswahili, English*
Religions Christian 94%, Muslim 5%, Traditional beliefs 1%
Ethnic mix Hutu 85%, Tutsi 14%, Other (including Twa) 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Rwanda franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 66%
Calorie consumption 2148 kilocalories

ST KITTS & NEVIS
West Indies

Official name Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis
Formation 1983 / 1983
Capital Basseterre
Population 51,538 / 371 people per sq mile (143 people per sq km)
Total area 101 sq. miles (261 sq. km)
Languages English*, English Creole
Religions Anglican 33%, Methodist 29%, Other 22%, Moravian 9%, Roman Catholic 7%
Ethnic mix Black 95%, Mixed race 3%, White 1%, Other and Amerindian 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2507 kilocalories

ST LUCIA
West Indies

Official name Saint Lucia
Formation 1979 / 1979
Capital Castries
Population 200,000 / 847 people per sq mile (328 people per sq km)
Total area 239 sq. miles (620 sq. km)
Languages English*, French Creole
Religions Roman Catholic 90%, Other 10%
Ethnic mix Black 83%, Mulatto (mixed race) 13%, Asian 3%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption 2629 kilocalories

ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES
West Indies

Official name Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Formation 1979 / 1979
Capital Kingstown
Population 102,918 / 786 people per sq mile (303 people per sq km)
Total area 150 sq. miles (389 sq. km)
Languages English*, English Creole
Religions Anglican 47%, Methodist 28%, Roman Catholic 13%, Other 12%
Ethnic mix Black 66%, Mulatto (mixed race) 19%, Other 12%, Carib 2%, Asian 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 88%
Calorie consumption 2960 kilocalories

SAMOA
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Independent State of Samoa
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Apia
Population 200,000 / 183 people per sq mile (71 people per sq km)
Total area 1104 sq. miles (2860 sq. km)
Languages Samoan*, English*
Religions Christian 99%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Polynesian 91%, Euronesian 7%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Tala = 100 sene
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2872 kilocalories

SAN MARINO
Southern Europe

Official name Republic of San Marino
Formation 1631 / 1631
Capital San Marino
Population 32,742 / 1364 people per sq mile (537 people per sq km)
Total area 23.6 sq. miles (61 sq. km)
Languages Italian*
Religions Roman Catholic 93%, Other and nonreligious 7%
Ethnic mix Sammarinese 88%, Italian 10%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

SAO TOME & PRINCIPE
West Africa

Official name Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital São Tomé
Population 200,000 / 539 people per sq mile (208 people per sq km)
Total area 386 sq. miles (1001 sq. km)
Languages Portuguese Creole, Portuguese*
Religions Roman Catholic 84%, Other 16%
Ethnic mix Black 90%, Portuguese and Creole 10%
Government Presidential system
Currency Dobra = 100 céntimos
Literacy rate 70%
Calorie consumption 2676 kilocalories

SAUDI ARABIA
Southwest Asia

Official name Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Formation 1932 / 1932
Capital Riyadh
Population 29.4 million / 36 people per sq mile (14 people per sq km)
Total area 756,981 sq. miles (1,960,582 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*
Religions Sunni Muslim 85%, Shi'a Muslim 15%
Ethnic mix Arab 72%, Foreign residents (mostly south and southeast Asian) 20%, Afro-Asian 8%
Government Monarchy
Currency Saudi riyal = 100 halalat
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 3122 kilocalories

SENEGAL
West Africa

Official name Republic of Senegal
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Dakar
Population 14.5 million / 195 people per sq mile (75 people per sq km)
Total area 75,749 sq. miles (196,190 sq. km)
Languages Wolof, Pulaar, Serer, Diola, Mandinka, Malinké, Soninké, French*
Religions Sunni Muslim 95%, Christian (mainly Roman Catholic) 4%, Traditional beliefs 1%
Ethnic mix Wolof 43%, Serer 15%, Peul 14%, Other 14%, Toucouleur 9%, Diola 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 52%
Calorie consumption 2426 kilocalories

SERBIA
Southeast Europe

Official name Republic of Serbia
Formation 2006 / 2008
Capital Belgrade
Population 9.5 million / 318 people per sq mile (123 people per sq km)
Total area 29,905 sq. miles (77,453 sq. km)
Languages Serbian*, Hungarian (Magyar)
Religions Orthodox Christian 85%, Roman Catholic 6%, Other 6%, Muslim 3%
Ethnic mix Serb 83%, Other 10%, Magyar 4%, Bosniak 2%, Roma 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Serbian dinar = 100 para
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2724 kilocalories

SEYCHELLES
Indian Ocean

Official name Republic of Seychelles
Formation 1976 / 1976
Capital Victoria
Population 91,650 / 881 people per sq mile (339 people per sq km)
Total area 176 sq. miles (455 sq. km)
Languages French Creole*, English*, French*
Religions Roman Catholic 82%, Anglican 6%, Other (including Muslim) 6%, Other Christian 3%,
Hindu 2%, Seventh-day Adventist 1%
Ethnic mix Creole 89%, Indian 5%, Other 4%, Chinese 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Seychelles rupee = 100 cents
Literacy rate 92%
Calorie consumption 2426 kilocalories

SIERRA LEONE
West Africa

Official name Republic of Sierra Leone
Formation 1961 / 1961
Capital Freetown
Population 6.2 million / 224 people per sq mile (87 people per sq km)
Total area 27,698 sq. miles (71,740 sq. km)
Languages Mende, Temne, Krio, English*
Religions Muslim 60%, Christian 30%, Traditional beliefs 10%
Ethnic mix Mende 35%, Temne 32%, Other 21%, Limba 8%, Kuranko 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency Leone = 100 cents
Literacy rate 44%
Calorie consumption 2333 kilocalories

SINGAPORE
Southeast Asia

Official name Republic of Singapore
Formation 1965 / 1965
Capital Singapore
Population 5.5 million / 23,305 people per sq mile (9016 people per sq km)
Total area 250 sq. miles (648 sq. km)
Languages Mandarin*, Malay*, Tamil*, English*
Religions Buddhist 55%, Taoist 22%, Muslim 16%, Hindu, Christian, and Sikh 7%
Ethnic mix Chinese 74%, Malay 14%, Indian 9%, Other 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Singapore dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 96%
Calorie consumption Not available

SLOVAKIA
Central Europe

Official name Slovak Republic
Formation 1993 / 1993
Capital Bratislava
Population 5.5 million / 290 people per sq mile (112 people per sq km)
Total area 18,859 sq. miles (48,845 sq. km)
Languages Slovak*, Hungarian (Magyar), Czech
Religions Roman Catholic 69%, Nonreligious 13%, Other 13%, Greek Catholic (Uniate) 4%, Orthodox Christian 1%
Ethnic mix Slovak 86%, Magyar 10%, Roma 2%, Czech 1%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2902 kilocalories

SLOVENIA
Central Europe

Official name Republic of Slovenia
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Ljubljana
Population 2.1 million / 269 people per sq mile (104 people per sq km)
Total area 7820 sq. miles (20,253 sq. km)
Languages Slovenian*
Religions Roman Catholic 58%, Other 28%, Atheist 10%, Orthodox Christian 2%, Muslim 2%
Ethnic mix Slovene 83%, Other 12%, Serb 2%, Croat 2%, Bosniak 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3173 kilocalories

SOLOMON ISLANDS
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Solomon Islands
Formation 1978 / 1978
Capital Honiara
Population 600,000 / 56 people per sq mile (21 people per sq km)
Total area 10,985 sq. miles (28,450 sq. km)
Languages English*, Pidgin English, Melanesian Pidgin, 120 (est.) native languages
Religions Church of Melanesia (Anglican) 34%, Roman Catholic 19%, South Seas Evangelical Church 17%, Methodist 11%, Seventh-day Adventist 10%, Other 9%
Ethnic mix Melanesian 93%, Polynesian 4%, Micronesian 2%, Other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Solomon Islands dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 77%
Calorie consumption 2473 kilocalories

SOMALIA
East Africa

Official name Federal Republic of Somalia
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Mogadishu
Population 10.8 million / 45 people per sq mile (17 people per sq km)
Total area 246,199 sq. miles (637,657 sq. km)
Languages Somali*, Arabic*, English, Italian
Religions Sunni Muslim 99%, Christian 1%
Ethnic mix Somali 85%, Other 15%
Government Non-party system
Currency Somali shilin = 100 senti
Literacy rate 24%
Calorie consumption 1696 kilocalories

SOUTH AFRICA
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of South Africa
Formation 1934 / 1994
Capital Pretoria; Cape Town; Bloemfontein
Population 53.1 million / 113 people per sq mile (43 people per sq km)
Total area 471,008 sq. miles (1,219,912 sq. km)
Languages English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Setswana, Sesotho, Xitsonga, siSwati, Tshivenda, isiNdebele
Religions Christian 68%, Traditional beliefs and animist 29%, Muslim 2%, Hindu 1%
Ethnic mix Black 80%, Mixed race 9%, White 9%, Asian 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Rand = 100 cents
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 3007 kilocalories

SOUTH KOREA
East Asia

Official name Republic of Korea
Formation 1948 / 1953
Capital Seoul; Sejong City (administrative)
Population 49.5 million / 1299 people per sq mile (501 people per sq km)
Total area 38,023 sq. miles (98,480 sq. km)
Languages Korean*
Religions Mahayana Buddhist 47%, Protestant 38%, Roman Catholic 11%, Confucianist 3%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Korean 100%
Government Presidential system
Currency South Korean won = 100 chon
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3329 kilocalories

SOUTH SUDAN
East Africa

Official name Republic of South Sudan
Formation 2011 / 2011
Capital Juba
Population 11.7 million / 47 people per sq mile (18 people per sq km)
Total area 248,777 sq. miles (644,329 sq. km)
Languages Arabic, Dinka, Nuer, Zande, Bari, Shilluk, Lotuko, English*
Religions Over half of the population follow Christian or traditional beliefs.
Ethnic mix Dinka 40%, Nuer 15%, Bari 10%, Shilluk/Anwak 10%, Azande 10%, Arab 10%, Other 5%
Government Transitional regime
Currency South Sudan pound = 100 piastres
Literacy rate 37%
Calorie consumption Not available

SPAIN
Southwest Europe

Official name Kingdom of Spain
Formation 1492 / 1713
Capital Madrid
Population 47.1 million / 244 people per sq mile (94 people per sq km)
Total area 194,896 sq. miles (504,782 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Catalan*, Galician*, Basque*
Religions Roman Catholic 96%, Other 4%
Ethnic mix Castilian Spanish 72%, Catalan 17%, Galician 6%, Basque 2%, Other 2%, Roma 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 3183 kilocalories

SRI LANKA
South Asia

Official name Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
Formation 1948 / 1948
Capital Colombo; Sri Jayewardenapura Kotte
Population 21.4 million / 856 people per sq mile (331 people per sq km)
Total area 25,332 sq. miles (65,610 sq. km)
Languages Sinhala*, Tamil*, Sinhala-Tamil, English
Religions Buddhist 69%, Hindu 15%, Muslim 8%, Christian 8%
Ethnic mix Sinhalese 74%, Tamil 18%, Moor 7%, Other 1%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Sri Lanka rupee = 100 cents
Literacy rate 91%
Calorie consumption 2539 kilocalories

SUDAN
East Africa

Official name Republic of the Sudan
Formation 1956 / 2011
Capital Khartoum
Population 38.8 million / 54 people per sq mile (21 people per sq km)
Total area 718,722 sq. miles (1,861,481 sq. km)
Languages Arabic, Nubian, Beja, Fur
Religions Nearly the whole population is Muslim (mainly Sunni)
Ethnic mix Arab 60%, Other 18%, Nubian 10%, Beja 8%, Fur 3%, Zaghawa 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency New Sudanese pound = 100 piastres
Literacy rate 73%
Calorie consumption 2346 kilocalories

SURINAME
South America

Official name Republic of Suriname
Formation 1975 / 1975
Capital Paramaribo
Population 500,000 / 8 people per sq mile (3 people per sq km)
Total area 63,039 sq. miles (163,270 sq. km)
Languages Sranan (creole), Dutch*, Javanese, Sarnami Hindi, Saramaccan, Chinese, Carib
Religions Hindu 27%, Protestant 25%, Roman Catholic 23%, Muslim 20%, Traditional beliefs 5%
Ethnic mix East Indian 27%, Creole 18%, Black 15%, Javanese 15%, Mixed race 13%, Other 6%, Amerindian 4%, Chinese 2%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Surinamese dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption 2727 kilocalories

SWAZILAND
Southern Africa

Official name Kingdom of Swaziland
Formation 1968 / 1968
Capital Mbabane
Population 1.3 million / 196 people per sq mile (76 people per sq km)
Total area 6704 sq. miles (17,363 sq. km)
Languages English*, siSwati*, isiZulu, Xitsonga
Religions Traditional beliefs 40%, Other 30%, Roman Catholic 20%, Muslim 10%
Ethnic mix Swazi 97%, Other 3%
Government Monarchy
Currency Lilangeni = 100 cents
Literacy rate 83%
Calorie consumption 2275 kilocalories

SWEDEN
Northern Europe

Official name Kingdom of Sweden
Formation 1523 / 1921
Capital Stockholm
Population 9.6 million / 60 people per sq mile (23 people per sq km)
Total area 173,731 sq. miles (449,964 sq. km)
Languages Swedish*, Finnish, Sámi
Religions Evangelical Lutheran 75%, Other 13%, Muslim 5%, Other Protestant 5%, Roman Catholic 2%
Ethnic mix Swedish 86%, Foreign-born or first-generation immigrant 12%, Finnish and Sámi 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Swedish krona = 100 öre
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3160 kilocalories

SWITZERLAND
Central Europe

Official name Swiss Confederation
Formation 1291 / 1857
Capital Bern
Population 8.2 million / 534 people per sq mile (206 people per sq km)
Total area 15,942 sq. miles (41,290 sq. km)
Languages German*, Swiss-German, French*, Italian*, Romansch
Religions Roman Catholic 42%, Protestant 35%, Other and nonreligious 19%, Muslim 4%
Ethnic mix German 64%, French 20%, Other 9.5%, Italian 6%, Romansch 0.5%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Swiss franc = 100 rappen/centimes
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3487 kilocalories

SYRIA
Southwest Asia

Official name Syrian Arab Republic
Formation 1941 / 1967
Capital Damascus
Population 22 million / 310 people per sq mile (120 people per sq km)
Total area 71,498 sq. miles (184,180 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, French, Kurdish, Armenian, Circassian, Turkic languages, Assyrian, Aramaic
Religions Sunni Muslim 74%, Alawi 12%, Christian 10%, Druze 3%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Arab 90%, Kurdish 9%, Armenian, Turkmen, and Circassian 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Syrian pound = 100 piastres
Literacy rate 85%
Calorie consumption 3106 kilocalories

TAIWAN
East Asia

Official name Republic of China (ROC)
Formation 1949 / 1949
Capital Taibei (Taipei)
Population 23.4 million / 1879 people per sq mile (725 people per sq km)
Total area 13,892 sq. miles (35,980 sq. km)
Languages Amoy Chinese, Mandarin Chinese*, Hakka Chinese
Religions Buddhist, Confucianist, and Taoist 93%, Christian 5%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Han Chinese (pre-20th-century migration) 84%, Han Chinese (20th-century migration) 14%, Aboriginal 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Taiwan dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2997 kilocalories

TAJIKISTAN
Central Asia

Official name Republic of Tajikistan
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Dushanbe
Population 8.4 million / 152 people per sq mile (59 people per sq km)
Total area 55,251 sq. miles (143,100 sq. km)
Languages Tajik*, Uzbek, Russian
Religions Sunni Muslim 95%, Shi'a Muslim 3%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Tajik 80%, Uzbek 15%, Other 3%, Russian 1%, Kyrgyz 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Somoni = 100 diram
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2101 kilocalories

TANZANIA
East Africa

Official name United Republic of Tanzania
Formation 1964 / 1964
Capital Dodoma
Population 50.8 million / 148 people per sq mile (57 people per sq km)
Total area 364,898 sq. miles (945,087 sq. km)
Languages Kiswahili*, Sukuma, Chagga, Nyamwezi, Hehe, Makonde, Yao, Sandawe, English*
Religions Christian 63%, Muslim 35%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Native African (over 120 tribes) 99%, European, Asian, and Arab 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency Tanzanian shilling = 100 cents
Literacy rate 68%
Calorie consumption 2208 kilocalories

THAILAND
Southeast Asia

Official name Kingdom of Thailand
Formation 1238 / 1907
Capital Bangkok
Population 67.2 million / 341 people per sq mile (132 people per sq km)
Total area 198,455 sq. miles (514,000 sq. km)
Languages Thai*, Chinese, Malay, Khmer, Mon, Karen, Miao
Religions Buddhist 95%, Muslim 4%, Other (including Christian) 1%
Ethnic mix Thai 83%, Chinese 12%, Malay 3%, Khmer and Other 2%
Government Transitional regime
Currency Baht = 100 satang
Literacy rate 96%
Calorie consumption 2784 kilocalories

TOGO
West Africa

Official name Togolese Republic
Formation 1960 / 1960
Capital Lomé
Population 7 million / 333 people per sq mile (129 people per sq km)
Total area 21,924 sq. miles (56,785 sq. km)
Languages Ewe, Kabye, Gurma, French*
Religions Christian 47%, Traditional beliefs 33%, Muslim 14%, Other 6%
Ethnic mix Ewe 46%, Other African 41%, Kabye 12%, European 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency CFA franc = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 60%
Calorie consumption 2366 kilocalories

TONGA
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Kingdom of Tonga
Formation 1970 / 1970
Capital Nuku'alofa
Population 106,440 / 383 people per sq mile (148 people per sq km)
Total area 289 sq. miles (748 sq. km)
Languages English*, Tongan*
Religions Free Wesleyan 41%, Other 17%, Roman Catholic 16%, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 14%, Free Church of Tonga 12%
Ethnic mix Tongan 98%, Other 2%
Government Monarchy
Currency Pa'anga (Tongan dollar) = 100 seniti
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
West Indies

Official name Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Port-of-Spain
Population 1.3 million / 656 people per sq mile (253 people per sq km)
Total area 1980 sq. miles (5128 sq. km)
Languages English Creole, English*, Hindi, French, Spanish
Religions Roman Catholic 26%, Hindu 23%, Other and nonreligious 23%, Anglican 8%, Baptist 7%, Pentecostal 7%, Muslim 6%
Ethnic mix East Indian 40%, Black 38%, Mixed race 20%, White and Chinese 1%, other 1%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Trinidad and Tobago dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2889 kilocalories

TUNISIA
North Africa

Official name Tunisian Republic
Formation 1956 / 1956
Capital Tunis
Population 11.1 million / 185 people per sq mile (71 people per sq km)
Total area 63,169 sq. miles (163,610 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, French
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 98%, Christian 1%, Jewish 1%
Ethnic mix Arab and Berber 98%, Jewish 1%, European 1%
Government Mixed presidential–parliamentary system
Currency Tunisian dinar = 1000 millimes
Literacy rate 80%
Calorie consumption 3362 kilocalories

TURKEY
Asia / Europe

Official name Republic of Turkey
Formation 1923 / 1939
Capital Ankara
Population 75.8 million / 255 people per sq mile (98 people per sq km)
Total area 301,382 sq. miles (780,580 sq. km)
Languages Turkish*, Kurdish, Arabic, Circassian, Armenian, Greek, Georgian, Ladino
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 99%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Turkish 70%, Kurdish 20%, Other 8%, Arab 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Turkish lira = 100 kurus
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption 3680 kilocalories

TURKMENISTAN
Central Asia

Official name Turkmenistan
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Ashgabat
Population 5.3 million / 28 people per sq mile (11 people per sq km)
Total area 188,455 sq. miles (488,100 sq. km)
Languages Turkmen*, Uzbek, Russian, Kazakh, Tatar
Religions Sunni Muslim 89%, Orthodox Christian 9%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Turkmen 85%, Other 6%, Uzbek 5%, Russian 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency New manat = 100 tenge
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2883 kilocalories

TUVALU
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Tuvalu
Formation 1978 / 1978
Capital Funafuti Atoll
Population 10,782 / 1078 people per sq mile (415 people per sq km)
Total area 10 sq. miles (26 sq. km)
Languages Tuvaluan, Kiribati, English*
Religions Church of Tuvalu 97%, Baha'i 1%, Seventh-day Adventist 1%, Other 1%
Ethnic mix Polynesian 96%, Micronesian 4%
Government Nonparty system
Currency Australian dollar = 100 cents; and Tuvaluan dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 95%
Calorie consumption Not available

UGANDA
East Africa

Official name Republic of Uganda
Formation 1962 / 1962
Capital Kampala
Population 38.8 million / 504 people per sq mile (194 people per sq km)
Total area 91,135 sq. miles (236,040 sq. km)
Languages Luganda, Nkole, Chiga, Lango, Acholi, Teso, Lugbara, English*
Religions Christian 85%, Muslim (mainly Sunni) 12%, Other 3%
Ethnic mix Other 50%, Baganda 17%, Banyakole 10%, Basoga 9%, Iteso 7%, Bakiga 7%
Government Presidential system
Currency Uganda shilling = 100 cents
Literacy rate 74%
Calorie consumption 2279 kilocalories

UKRAINE
Eastern Europe

Official name Ukraine
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Kiev
Population 44.9 million / 193 people per sq mile (74 people per sq km)
Total area 223,089 sq. miles (603,700 sq. km)
Languages Ukrainian*, Russian, Tatar
Religions Christian (mainly Orthodox) 95%, Other 5%
Ethnic mix Ukrainian 78%, Russian 17%, Other 5%
Government Presidential system
Currency Hryvna = 100 kopiykas
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3142 kilocalories

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Southwest Asia

Official name United Arab Emirates
Formation 1971 / 1972
Capital Abu Dhabi
Population 9.4 million / 291 people per sq mile (112 people per sq km)
Total area 32,000 sq. miles (82,880 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*, Farsi, Indian and Pakistani languages, English
Religions Muslim (mainly Sunni) 96%, Christian, Hindu, and other 4%
Ethnic mix Asian 60%, Emirian 25%, Other Arab 12%, European 3%
Government Monarchy
Currency UAE dirham = 100 fils
Literacy rate 90%
Calorie consumption 3215 kilocalories

UNITED KINGDOM
Northwest Europe

Official name United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Formation 1707 / 1922
Capital London
Population 63.5 million / 681 people per sq mile (263 people per sq km)
Total area 94,525 sq. miles (244,820 sq. km)
Languages English*, Welsh*, Scottish Gaelic, Irish
Religions Anglican 45%, Other and nonreligious 36%, Roman Catholic 9%, Presbyterian 4%, Muslim 3%, Methodist 2%, Hindu 1%
Ethnic mix English 80%, Scottish 9%, West Indian, Asian, and other 5%, Northern Irish 3%, Welsh 3%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Pound sterling = 100 pence
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3414 kilocalories

UNITED STATES
North America

Official name United States of America
Formation 1776 / 1959
Capital Washington D.C.
Population 323 million / 91 people per sq mile (35 people per sq km)
Total area 3,794,100 sq. miles (9,826,675 sq. km)
Languages English*, Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Italian, Korean, Russian, Polish
Religions Protestant 52%, Roman Catholic 25%, Other and nonreligious 20%, Jewish 2%, Muslim 1%
Ethnic mix White 60%, Hispanic 17%, Black American/African 14%, Asian 6%, American Indians & Alaksa Natives 2%, Pacific Islanders 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency US dollar = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 3639 kilocalories

URUGUAY
South America

Official name Oriental Republic of Uruguay
Formation 1828 / 1828
Capital Montevideo
Population 3.4 million / 50 people per sq mile (19 people per sq km)
Total area 68,039 sq. miles (176,220 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*
Religions Roman Catholic 66%, Other and nonreligious 30%, Jewish 2%, Protestant 2%
Ethnic mix White 90%, Mestizo 6%, Black 4%
Government Presidential system
Currency Uruguayan peso = 100 centésimos
Literacy rate 98%
Calorie consumption 2939 kilocalories

UZBEKISTAN
Central Asia

Official name Republic of Uzbekistan
Formation 1991 / 1991
Capital Tashkent
Population 29.3 million / 170 people per sq mile (65 people per sq km)
Total area 172,741 sq. miles (447,400 sq. km)
Languages Uzbek*, Russian, Tajik, Kazakh
Religions Sunni Muslim 88%, Orthodox Christian 9%, Other 3%
Ethnic mix Uzbek 80%, Russian 6%, Other 6%, Tajik 5%, Kazakh 3%
Government Presidential system
Currency Som = 100 tiyin
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption 2675 kilocalories

VANUATU
Australasia & Oceania

Official name Republic of Vanuatu
Formation 1980 / 1980
Capital Port Vila
Population 300,000 / 64 people per sq mile (25 people per sq km)
Total area 4710 sq. miles (12,200 sq. km)
Languages Bislama (Melanesian pidgin)*, English*, French*, other indigenous languages
Religions Presbyterian 37%, Other 19%, Anglican 15%, Roman Catholic 15%, Traditional beliefs 8%, Seventh-day Adventist 6%
Ethnic mix ni-Vanuatu 94%, European 4%, Other 2%
Government Parliamentary system
Currency Vatu = 100 centimes
Literacy rate 83%
Calorie consumption 2820 kilocalories

VATICAN CITY
Southern Europe

Official name State of the Vatican City
Formation 1929 / 1929
Capital Vatican City
Population 842 / 4953 people per sq mile (1914 people per sq km)
Total area 0.17 sq. miles (0.44 sq. km)
Languages Italian*, Latin*
Religions Roman Catholic 100%
Ethnic mix The current pope is Argentinian, though most popes for the last 500 years have been Italian. Cardinals are from many nationalities, but Italians form the largest group. Most of the resident lay persons are Italian.
Government Papal state
Currency Euro = 100 cents
Literacy rate 99%
Calorie consumption Not available

VENEZUELA
South America

Official name Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Formation 1830 / 1830
Capital Caracas
Population 30.9 million / 91 people per sq mile (35 people per sq km)
Total area 352,143 sq. miles (912,050 sq. km)
Languages Spanish*, Amerindian languages
Religions Roman Catholic 96%, Protestant 2%, Other 2%
Ethnic mix Mestizo 69%, White 20%, Black 9%, Amerindian 2%
Government Presidential system
Currency Bolívar fuerte = 100 céntimos
Literacy rate 96%
Calorie consumption 2880 kilocalories

VIETNAM
Southeast Asia

Official name Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Formation 1976 / 1976
Capital Hanoi
Population 92.5 million / 736 people per sq mile (284 people per sq km)
Total area 127,243 sq. miles (329,560 sq. km)
Languages Vietnamese*, Chinese, Thai, Khmer, Muong, Nung, Miao, Yao, Jarai
Religions Other 74%, Buddhist 14%, Roman Catholic 7%, Cao Dai 3%, Protestant 2%
Ethnic mix Vietnamese 86%, Other 8%, Muong 2%, Tay 2%, Thai 2%
Government One-party state
Currency Dông = 10 hao = 100 xu
Literacy rate 94%
Calorie consumption 2745 kilocalories

YEMEN
Southwest Asia

Official name Republic of Yemen
Formation 1990 / 1990
Capital Sana
Population 25 million / 115 people per sq mile (44 people per sq km)
Total area 203,849 sq. miles (527,970 sq. km)
Languages Arabic*
Religions Sunni Muslim 55%, Shi'a Muslim 42%, Christian, Hindu, and Jewish 3%
Ethnic mix Arab 99%, Afro-Arab, Indian, Somali, and European 1%
Government Transitional regime
Currency Yemeni rial = 100 fils
Literacy rate 66%
Calorie consumption 2223 kilocalories

ZAMBIA
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Zambia
Formation 1964 / 1964
Capital Lusaka
Population 15 million / 52 people per sq mile (20 people per sq km)
Total area 290,584 sq. miles (752,614 sq. km)
Languages Bemba, Tonga, Nyanja, Lozi, Lala-Bisa, Nsenga, English*
Religions Christian 63%, Traditional beliefs 36%, Muslim and Hindu 1%
Ethnic mix Bemba 34%, Other African 26%, Tonga 16%, Nyanja 14%, Lozi 9%, European 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency New Zambian kwacha = 100 ngwee
Literacy rate 61%
Calorie consumption 1930 kilocalories

ZIMBABWE
Southern Africa

Official name Republic of Zimbabwe
Formation 1980 / 1980
Capital Harare
Population 14.6 million / 98 people per sq mile (38 people per sq km)
Total area 150,803 sq. miles (390,580 sq. km)
Languages Shona, isiNdebele, English*
Religions Syncretic (Christian/traditional beliefs) 50%, Christian 25%, Traditional beliefs 24%, Other (including Muslim) 1%
Ethnic mix Shona 71%, Ndebele 16%, Other African 11%, White 1%, Asian 1%
Government Presidential system
Currency US $, South African rand, Euro, UK £, Botswana pula, Australian $, Chinese yuan, Indian rupee, and Japanese yen are legal tender
Literacy rate 84%
Calorie consumption 2110 kilocalories

Geographical names

The following glossary lists all geographical terms occurring on the maps and in main-entry names in the Index-Gazetteer. These terms may precede, follow or be run together with the proper element of the name; where they precede it the term is reversed for indexing purposes - thus Poluostrov Yamal is indexed as Yamal, Poluostrov.

Key

Geographical term
Language, Term

A

Å *Danish, Norwegian*, River
Āb *Persian*, River
Adrar *Berber*, Mountains
Agía, Ágios *Greek*, Saint
Air *Indonesian*, River
Ákra *Greek*, Cape, point
Alpen *German*, Alps
Alt- *German*, Old
Altiplanicie *Spanish*, Plateau
Älve, -älven *Swedish*, River
-ån *Swedish*, River
Anse *French*, Bay
'Aqabat *Arabic*, Pass
Archipiélago *Spanish*, Archipelago
Arcipelago *Italian*, Archipelago
Arquipélago *Portuguese*, Archipelago
Arrecife(s) *Spanish*, Reef(s)
Aru *Tamil*, River
Augstiene *Latvian*, Upland
Aukštuma *Lithuanian*, Upland
Aust- *Norwegian*, Eastern
Avtonomnyy Okrug *Russian*, Autonomous district
Āw *Kurdish*, River
'Ayn *Arabic*, Spring, well
'Ayoûn *Arabic*, Wells

B

Baelt *Danish*, Strait
Bahía *Spanish*, Bay
Baḩr *Arabic*, River
Baía *Portuguese*, Bay
Baie *French*, Bay
Bañado *Spanish*, Marshy land
Bandao *Chinese*, Peninsula
Banjaran *Malay*, Mountain range
Barajı *Turkish*, Dam
Barragem *Portuguese*, Reservoir
Bassin *French*, Basin
Batang *Malay*, Stream
Beinn, Ben *Gaelic*, Mountain
-berg *Afrikaans, Norwegian*, Mountain
Besar *Indonesian, Malay*, Big
Birkat, Birket *Arabic*, Lake, well, cistern
Boğazı *Turkish*, Lake
Boka *Serbo-Croatian*, Bay
Bol'sh-aya, -iye, -oy, -oye *Russian*, Big
Botigh(i) *Uzbek*, Depression basin
-bre(en) *Norwegian*, Glacier
Bredning *Danish*, Bay
Bucht *German*, Bay
Bugt(en) *Danish*, Bay
Buḩayrat *Arabic*, Lake, reservoir
Buḩeirat *Arabic*, Lake
Bukit *Malay*, Mountain
-bukta *Norwegian*, Bay
bukten *Swedish*, Bay
Bulag *Mongolian*, Spring
Bulak *Uighur*, Spring
Burnu *Turkish*, Cape, point
Buuraha *Somali*, Mountains

C

Cabo *Portuguese*, Cape
Caka *Tibetan*, Salt lake
Canal *Spanish*, Channel
Cap *French*, Cape
Capo *Italian*, Cape, headland
Cascada *Portuguese*, Waterfall
Cayo(s) *Spanish*, Islet(s), rock(s)
Cerro *Spanish*, Hill
Chaîne *French*, Mountain range
Chapada *Portuguese*, Hills, upland
Chau *Cantonese*, Island
Çhay *Turkish*, River
Chhâk *Cambodian*, Bay
Chhu *Tibetan*, River
-chŏsuji *Korean*, Reservoir
Chott *Arabic*, Depression, salt lake
Chŭli *Uzbek*, Grassland, steppe
Ch'ün-tao *Chinese*, Island group
Chuŏr Phnum *Cambodian*, Mountains
Ciudad *Spanish*, City, town
Co *Tibetan*, Lake
Colline(s) *French*, Hill(s)
Cordillera *Spanish*, Mountain range
Costa *Spanish*, Coast
Côte *French*, Coast
Coxilha *Portuguese*, Mountains
Cuchilla *Spanish*, Mountains

D

Daban *Mongolian, Uighur*, Pass
Dağı *Azerbaijani, Turkish*, Mountain
Dağları *Azerbaijani, Turkish*, Mountains
-dake *Japanese*, Peak
-dal(en) *Norwegian*, Valley
Danau *Indonesian*, Lake
Dao *Chinese*, Island
Đao *Vietnamese*, Island
Daryā *Persian*, River
Daryācheh *Persian*, Lake
Dasht *Persian*, Desert, plain
Dawḩat *Arabic*, Bay
Denizi *Turkish*, Sea
Dere *Turkish*, Stream
Desierto *Spanish*, Desert
Dili *Azerbaijani*, Spit
-do *Korean*, Island
Dooxo *Somali*, Valley
Düzü *Azerbaijani*, Steppe
-dwīp *Bengali*, Island

E

-eilanden *Dutch*, Islands
Embalse *Spanish*, Reservoir
Ensenada *Spanish*, Bay
Erg *Arabic*, Dunes
Estany *Catalan*, Lake
Estero *Spanish*, Inlet
Estrecho *Spanish*, Strait
Étang *French*, Lagoon, lake
-ey *Icelandic*, Island
Ezero *Bulgarian, Macedonian*, Lake
Ezers *Latvian*, Lake

F

Feng *Chinese*, Peak
Fjord *Danish*, Fjord
-fjord(en) *Danish, Norwegian, Swedish*, fjord
-fjördhur *Icelandic*, Fjord
Fleuve *French*, River
Fliegu *Maltese*, Channel
-fljór *Icelandic*, River
-flói *Icelandic*, Bay
Forêt *French*, Forest

G

-gan *Japanese*, Rock
-gang *Korean*, River
Ganga *Hindi, Nepali, Sinhala*, River
Gaoyuan *Chinese*, Plateau
Garagumy *Turkmen*, Sands
-gawa *Japanese*, River
Gebel *Arabic*, Mountain
-gebirge *German*, Mountain range
Ghadīr *Arabic*, Well
Ghubbat *Arabic*, Bay
Gjiri *Albanian*, Bay
Gol *Mongolian*, River
Golfe *French*, Gulf
Golfo *Italian, Spanish*, Gulf
Göl(ü) *Turkish*, Lake
Golyam, -a *Bulgarian*, Big
Gora *Russian, Serbo-Croatian*, Mountain
Góra *Polish*, mountain
Gory *Russian*, Mountain
Gryada *Russian*, ridge
Guba *Russian*, Bay
-gundo *Korean*, island group
Gunung *Malay*, Mountain

H

Ḩadd *Arabic*, Spit
-haehyŏp *Korean*, Strait
Haff *German*, Lagoon
Hai *Chinese*, Bay, lake, sea
Haixia *Chinese*, Strait
Hamada *Arabic*, Plateau
Ḩammādat *Arabic*, Plateau
Hāmūn *Persian*, Lake
-hantō *Japanese*, Peninsula
Har, Haré *Hebrew*, Mountain
Ḩarrat *Arabic*, Lava-field
Hav(et) *Danish*, Swedish, Sea
Hawr *Arabic*, Lake
Hāyk' *Amharic*, Lake
He *Chinese*, River
-hegység *Hungarian*, Mountain range
Heide *German*, Heath, moorland
Helodrano *Malagasy*, Bay
Higashi- *Japanese*, East(ern)
Ḩiṣā' *Arabic*, Well
Hka *Burmese*, River
-ho *Korean*, Lake
Holot *Hebrew*, Dunes
Hora *Belarussian, Czech*, Mountain
Hrada *Belarussian*, Mountain, ridge
Hsi *Chinese*, River
Hu *Chinese*, Lake
Huk *Danish*, Point

I

Île(s) *French*, Island(s)
Ilha(s) *Portuguese*, Island(s)
Ilhéu(s) *Portuguese*, Islet(s)
Imeni *Russian*, In the name of
Inish- *Gaelic*, Island
Insel(n) *German*, Island(s)
Irmağı, Irmak *Turkish*, River
Isla(s) *Spanish*, Island(s)
Isola (Isole) *Italian*, Island(s)

J

Jabal *Arabic*, Mountain
Jāl *Arabic*, Ridge
-järv *Estonian*, Lake
-järvi *Finnish*, Lake
Jazā'ir *Arabic*, Islands
Jazīrat *Arabic*, Island
Jazīreh *Persian*, Island
Jebel *Arabic*, Mountain
Jezero *Serbo-Croatian*, Lake
Jezioro *Polish*, Lake
Jiang *Chinese*, River
-jima *Japanese*, Island
Jižní *Czech*, Southern
-jõgi *Estonian*, River
-joki *Finnish*, River
-jökull *Icelandic*, Glacier
Jūn *Arabic*, Bay
Juzur *Arabic*, Islands

K

Kaikyō *Japanese*, Strait
-kaise *Lappish*, Mountain
Kali *Nepali*, River
Kalnas *Lithuanian*, Mountain
Kalns *Latvian*, Mountain
Kang *Chinese*, Harbour
Kangri *Tibetan*, Mountain(s)
Kaôh *Cambodian*, Island
Kapp *Norwegian*, Cape
Káto *Greek*, Lower
Kavīr *Persian*, Desert
K'edi *Georgian*, Mountain range
Kediet *Arabic*, Mountain
Kepi *Albanian*, Cape, point
Kepulauan *Indonesian, Malay*, Island group
Khalîg, Khalīj *Arabic*, Gulf
Khawr *Arabic*, Inlet
Khola *Nepali*, River
Khrebet *Russian*, Mountain range
Ko *Thai*, Island
-ko *Japanese*, Inlet, lake
Kólpos *Greek*, Bay
-kopf *German*, Peak
Körfäzi *Azerbaijani*, Bay
Körfezi *Turkish*, Bay
Kõrgustik *Estonian*, Upland
Kosa *Russian, Ukrainian*, Spit
Koshi *Nepali*, River
Kou *Chinese*, River-mouth
Kowtal *Persian*, Pass
Kray *Russian*, Region, territory
Kryazh *Russian*, Ridge
Kuduk *Uighur*, Well
Kūh(hā) *Persian*, Mountain(s)
-kul' *Russian*, Lake
Kŭl(i) *Tajik, Uzbek*, Lake
-kundo *Korean*, Island group
-kysten *Norwegian*, Coast
Kyun *Burmese*, Island

L

Laaq *Somali*, Watercourse
Lac *French*, Lake
Lacul *Romanian*, Lake
Lagh *Somali*, Stream
Lago *Italian, Portuguese, Spanish*, Lake
Lagoa *Portuguese*, Lagoon
Laguna *Italian, Spanish*, Lagoon, lake
Laht *Estonian*, Bay
Laut *Indonesian*, Bay
Lembalemba *Malagasy*, Plateau
Lerr *Armenian*, Mountain
Lerrnashght'a *Armenian*, Mountain range
Les *Czech*, Forest
Lich *Armenian*, Lake
Liehtao *Chinese*, Island group
Liqeni *Albanian*, Lake
Límni *Greek*, Lake
Ling *Chinese*, Mountain range
Llano *Spanish*, Plain, prairie
Lumi *Albanian*, River
Lyman *Ukrainian*, Estuary

M

Madīnat *Arabic*, City, town
Mae Nam *Thai*, River
-mägi *Estonian*, Hill
Maja *Albanian*, Mountain
Mal *Albanian*, Mountains
Mal-aya, -oye, -yy, *Russian*, Small
-man *Korean*, Bay
Mar *Spanish*, Sea
Marios *Lithuanian*, Lake
Massif *French*, Mountains
Meer *German*, Lake
-meer *Dutch*, Lake
Melkosopochnik *Russian*, Plain
-meri *Estonian*, Sea
Mifraz *Hebrew*, Bay
Minami- *Japanese*, South(ern)
-misaki *Japanese*, Cape, point
Monkhafad *Arabic*, Depression
Montagne(s) *French*, Mountain(s)
Montañas *Spanish*, Mountains
Mont(s) *French*, Mountain(s)
Monte *Italian, Portuguese*, Mountain
More *Russian*, Sea
Mörön *Mongolian*, River
Mys *Russian*, Cape, point

N

-nada *Japanese*, Open stretch of water
Nagor'ye *Russian*, Upland
Naḩal *Hebrew*, River
Nahr *Arabic*, River
Nam *Laotian*, River
Namakzār *Persian*, Salt desert
Né-a, -on, -os *Greek*, New
Nedre- *Norwegian*, Lower
-neem *Estonian*, Cape, point
Nehri *Turkish*, River
-nes *Norwegian*, Cape, point
Nevado *Spanish*, Snow-capped mountain
Nieder- *German*, Lower
Nishi- *Japanese*, West(ern)
-nísi *Greek*, Island
Nisoi *Greek*, Islands
Nizhn-eye, -iy, -iye, -yaya *Russian*, Lower
Nizmennost' *Russian*, Lowland, plain
Nord *Danish, French, German*, North
Norte *Portuguese, Spanish*, North
Nos *Bulgarian*, Point, spit
Nosy *Malagasy*, Island
Nov-a, -i, *Bulgarian, Serbo-Croatian*, New
Nov-aya, -o, -oye, -yy, -yye *Russian*, New
Now-a, -e, -y *Polish*, New
Nur *Mongolian*, Lake
Nuruu *Mongolian*, Mountains
Nuur *Mongolian*, Lake
Nyzovyna *Ukrainian*, Lowland, plain

O

-ø *Danish*, Island
Ober- *German*, Upper
Oblast' *Russian*, Province
Órmos *Greek*, Bay
Orol(i) *Uzbek*, Island
Øster- *Norwegian*, Eastern
Ostrov(a) *Russian*, Island(s)
Otok *Serbo-Croatian*, Island
Oued *Arabic*, Watercourse
-oy *Faeroese*, Island
-øy(a) *Norwegian*, Island
Oya *Sinhala*, River
Ozero *Russian, Ukrainian*, Lake

P

Passo *Italian*, Pass
Pegunungan *Indonesian, Malay*, Mountain range
Pélagos *Greek*, Sea
Pendi *Chinese*, Basin
Penisola *Italian*, Peninsula
Pertuis *French*, Strait
Peski *Russian*, Sands
Phanom *Thai*, Mountain
Phou *Laotian*, Mountain
Pi *Chinese*, Point
Pic *Catalan, French*, Peak
Pico *Portuguese, Spanish*, Peak
-piggen *Danish*, Peak
Pik *Russian*, Peak
Pivostriv *Ukrainian*, Peninsula
Planalto *Portuguese*, Plateau
Planina, Planini *Bulgarian, Macedonian, Serbo-Croatian*, Mountain range
Plato *Russian*, Plateau
Ploskogor'ye *Russian*, Upland
Poluostrov *Russian*, Peninsula
Ponta *Portuguese*, Point
Porthmós *Greek*, Strait
Pótamos *Greek*, River
Presa *Spanish*, Dam
Prokhod *Bulgarian*, Pass
Proliv *Russian*, Strait
Pulau *Indonesian, Malay*, Island
Pulu *Malay*, Island
Punta *Spanish*, Point
Pushcha *Belorussian*, Forest
Puszcza *Polish*, Forest

Q

Qā' *Arabic*, Depression
Qalamat *Arabic*, Well
Qatorkŭh(i) *Tajik*, Mountain
Qiuling *Chinese*, Hills
Qolleh *Persian*, Mountain
Qu *Tibetan*, Stream
Quan *Chinese*, Well
Qulla(i) *Tajik*, Peak
Qundao *Chinese*, Island group

R

Raas *Somali*, Cape
-rags *Latvian*, Cape
Ramlat *Arabic*, Sands
Ra's *Arabic*, Cape, headland, point
Ravnina *Bulgarian, Russian*, Plain
Récif *French*, Reef
Recife *Portuguese*, Reef
Reka *Bulgarian*, River
Represa (Rep.) *Portuguese, Spanish*, Reservoir
Reshteh *Persian*, Mountain range
Respublika *Russian*, Republic, first-order administrative division
Respublika(si) *Uzbek*, Republic, first-order administrative division
-retsugan *Japanese*, Chain of rocks
-rettō *Japanese*, Island chain
Riacho *Spanish*, Stream
Riban' *Malagasy*, Mountains
Rio *Portuguese*, River
Río *Spanish*, River
Riu *Catalan*, River
Rivier *Dutch*, River
Rivière *French*, River
Rowd *Pashtu*, River
Rt *Serbo-Croatian*, Point
Rūd *Persian*, River
Rūdkhāneh *Persian*, River
Rudohorie *Slovak*, Mountains
Ruisseau *French*, Stream

S

-saar *Estonian*, Island
-saari *Finnish*, Island
Sabkhat *Arabic*, Salt marsh
Sāgar(a) *Hindi*, Lake, reservoir
Şaḩrā' *Arabic*, Desert
Saint, Sainte *French*, Saint
Salar *Spanish*, Salt-pan
Salto *Portuguese, Spanish*, Waterfall
Samudra *Sinhala*, Reservoir
-san *Japanese, Korean*, Mountain
-sanchi *Japanese*, Mountains
-sandur *Icelandic*, Beach
Sankt *German, Swedish*, Saint
-sanmaek *Korean*, Mountain range
-sanmyaku *Japanese*, Mountain range
San, Santa, Santo *Italian, Portuguese, Spanish*, Saint
São *Portuguese*, Saint
Sarīr *Arabic*, Desert
Sebkha, Sebkhet *Arabic*, Depression, salt marsh
Sedlo *Czech*, Pass
See *German*, Lake
Selat *Indonesian*, Strait
Selatan *Indonesian*, Southern
-selkä *Finnish*, Lake, ridge
Selseleh *Persian*, Mountain range
Serra *Portuguese*, Mountain
Serranía *Spanish*, Mountain
-seto *Japanese*, Channel, strait
Sever-naya, -noye, -nyy, -o *Russian*, Northern
Sha'īb *Arabic*, Watercourse
Shākh *Kurdish*, Mountain
Shamo *Chinese*, Desert
Shan *Chinese*, Mountain(s)
Shankou *Chinese*, Pass
Shanmo *Chinese*, Mountain range
Shaţţ *Arabic*, Distributary
Shet' *Amharic*, River
Shi *Chinese*, Municipality
-shima *Japanese*, Island
Shiqqat *Arabic*, Depression
-shotō *Japanese*, Group of islands
Shuiku *Chinese*, Reservoir
Shūrkhog(i) *Uzbek*, Salt marsh
Sierra *Spanish*, Mountains
Sint *Dutch*, Saint
-sjø(en) *Norwegian*, Lake
-sjön *Swedish*, Lake
Solonchak *Russian*, Salt lake
Solonchakovyye Vpadiny *Russian*, Salt basin, wetlands
Son *Vietnamese*, Mountain
Sông *Vietnamese*, River
Sør- *Norwegian*, Southern
-spitze *German*, Peak
Star-á, -é *Czech*, Old
Star-aya, -oye, -yy, -yye *Russian*, Old
Stenó *Greek*, Strait
Step' *Russian*, Steppe
Štít *Slovak*, Peak
Stœng *Cambodian*, River
Stolovaya Strana *Russian*, Plateau
Stredné *Slovak*, Middle
Střední *Czech*, Middle
Stretto *Italian*, Strait
Su Anbarı *Azerbaijani*, Reservoir
-suidō *Japanese*, Channel, strait
Sund *Swedish*, Sound, strait
Sungai *Indonesian, Malay*, River
Suu *Turkish*, River

T

Tal *Mongolian*, Plain
Tandavan' *Malagasy*, Mountain range
Tangorombohitr' *Malagasy*, Mountain massif
Tanjung *Indonesian, Malay*, Cape, point
Tao *Chinese*, Island
Ţaraq *Arabic*, Hills
Tassili *Berber*, Mountain, plateau
Tau *Russian*, Mountain(s)
Taungdan *Burmese*, Mountain range
Techníti Límni *Greek*, Reservoir
Tekojärvi *Finnish*, Reservoir
Teluk *Indonesian, Malay*, Bay
Tengah *Indonesian*, Middle
Terara *Amharic*, Mountain
Timur *Indonesian*, Eastern
-tind(an) *Norwegian*, Peak
Tizma(si) *Uzbek*, Mountain range, ridge
-tō *Japanese*, island
Tog *Somali*, Valley
-tōge *Japanese*, pass
Togh(i) *Uzbek*, mountain
Tônlé *Cambodian*, Lake
Top *Dutch*, Peak
-tunturi *Finnish*, Mountain
Ţurāq *Arabic*, hills
Tur'at *Arabic*, Channel

U

Udde(n) *Swedish*, Cape, point
'Uqlat *Arabic*, Well
Utara *Indonesian*, Northern
Uul *Mongolian*, Mountains

V

Väin *Estonian*, Strait
Vallée *French*, Valley
Varful *Romanian*, Peak
-vatn *Icelandic*, Lake
-vatnet *Norwegian*, Lake
Velayat *Turkmen*, Province
-vesi *Finnish*, Lake
Vestre- *Norwegian*, Western
-vidda *Norwegian*, Plateau
-vík *Icelandic*, Bay
-viken *Swedish*, Bay, inlet
Vinh *Vietnamese*, Bay
Víztárloló *Hungarian*, Reservoir
Vodaskhovishcha *Belarussian*, Reservoir
Vodokhranilishche (Vdkhr.) *Russian*, Reservoir
Vodoskhovyshche (Vdskh.) *Ukrainian*, Reservoir
Volcán *Spanish*, Volcano
Vostochn-o, yy *Russian*, Eastern
Vozvyshennost' *Russian*, Upland, plateau
Vozyera *Belarussian*, Lake
Vpadina *Russian*, Depression
Vrchovina *Czech*, Mountains
Vrh *Croat, Slovene*, Peak
Vychodné *Slovak*, Eastern
Vysochyna *Ukrainian*, Upland
Vysočina *Czech*, Upland

W

Waadi *Somali*, Watercourse
Wādī *Arabic* Watercourse
Wāḩat, Wâhat *Arabic*, Oasis
Wald *German*, Forest
Wan *Chinese*, Bay
Way *Indonesian*, River
Webi *Somali*, River
Wenz *Amharic*, River
Wiloyat(i) *Uzbek*, Province
Wyżyna *Polish*, Upland
Wzgórza *Polish*, Upland
Wzvyshsha *Belarussian*, Upland

X

Xé *Laotian*, River
Xi *Chinese*, Stream

Y

-yama *Japanese*, Mountain
Yanchi *Chinese*, Salt lake
Yanhu *Chinese*, Salt lake
Yarımadası *Azerbaijani, Turkish*, Peninsula
Yaylası *Turkish*, Plateau
Yazovir *Bulgarian*, Reservoir
Yoma *Burmese*, Mountains
Ytre- *Norwegian*, Outer
Yü *Chinese*, Island
Yunhe *Chinese*, Canal
Yuzhn-o, -yy *Russian*, Southern

Z

-zaki *Japanese*, Cape, point
Zaliv *Bulgarian, Russian*, Bay
-zan *Japanese*, Mountain
Zangbo *Tibetan*, River
Zapadn-aya, -o, -yy *Russian*, Western
Západné *Slovak*, Western
Západní *Czech*, Western
Zatoka *Polish, Ukrainian*, Bay
-zee *Dutch*, Sea
Zemlya *Russian*, Earth, land
Zizhiqu *Chinese*, Autonomous region

INDEX

Glossary of Abbreviations

This glossary provides a comprehensive guide to the abbreviations used in this Atlas, and in the Index.

A
abbrev. abbreviated
AD Anno Domini
Afr. Afrikaans
Alb. Albanian
Amh. Amharic
anc. ancient
approx. approximately
Ar. Arabic
Arm. Armenian
ASEAN Association of South East Asian Nations
ASSR Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic
Aust. Australian
Az. Azerbaijani
Azerb. Azerbaijan

B
Basq. Basque
BC before Christ
Bel. Belarussian
Ben. Bengali
Ber. Berber
B-H Bosnia-Herzegovina
bn billion (one thousand million)
BP British Petroleum
Bret. Breton
Brit. British
Bul. Bulgarian
Bur. Burmese

C
C central
C. Cape
°C degrees Centigrade
CACM Central America Common Market
Cam. Cambodian
Cant. Cantonese
CAR Central African Republic
Cast. Castilian
Cat. Catalan
CEEAC Central America Common Market
Chin. Chinese
CIS Commonwealth of Independent States
cm centimetre(s)
Cro. Croat
Cz. Czech
Czech Rep. Czech Republic

D
Dan. Danish
Div. Divehi
Dom. Rep. Dominican Republic
Dut. Dutch

E
E east
EC *see* EU
EEC *see* EU
ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States
ECU European Currency Unit
EMS European Monetary System
Eng. English
est estimated
Est. Estonian
EU European Union (previously European Community [EC], European Economic Community [EEC])

F
°F degrees Fahrenheit
Faer. Faeroese
Fij. Fijian
Fin. Finnish
Fr. French
Fris. Frisian
ft foot/feet
FYROM Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

G
g gram(s)
Gael. Gaelic
Gal. Galician
GDP Gross Domestic Product (the total value of goods and services produced by a country excluding income from foreign countries)
Geor. Georgian
Ger. German
Gk Greek
GNP Gross National Product (the total value of goods and services produced by a country)

H
Heb. Hebrew
HEP hydro-electric power
Hind. Hindi
hist. historical
Hung. Hungarian

I
I. Island
Icel. Icelandic
in inch(es)
In. Inuit (Eskimo)
Ind. Indonesian
Intl International
Ir. Irish
Is Islands
It. Italian

J
Jap. Japanese

K
Kaz. Kazakh
kg kilogram(s)
Kir. Kirghiz
km kilometre(s)
km² square kilometre (singular)
Kor. Korean
Kurd. Kurdish

L
L. Lake
LAIA Latin American Integration Association
Lao. Laotian
Lapp. Lappish
Lat. Latin
Latv. Latvian
Liech. Liechtenstein
Lith. Lithuanian
Lux. Luxembourg

M
m million/metre(s)
Mac. Macedonian
Maced. Macedonia
Mal. Malay
Malg. Malagasy
Malt. Maltese
mi. mile(s)
Mong. Mongolian
Mt. Mountain
Mts Mountains

N
N north
NAFTA North American Free Trade Agreement
Nep. Nepali
Neth. Netherlands
Nic. Nicaraguan
Nor. Norwegian
NZ New Zealand

P
Pash. Pashtu
PNG Papua New Guinea
Pol. Polish
Poly. Polynesian
Port. Portuguese
prev. previously

R
Rep. Republic
Res. Reservoir
Rmsch Romansch
Rom. Romanian
Rus. Russian
Russ. Fed. Russian Federation

S
S south
SADC Southern Africa Development Community
SCr. Serbo-Croatian
Sinh. Sinhala
Slvk Slovak
Slvn. Slovene
Som. Somali
Sp. Spanish
St., St Saint
Strs Straits
Swa. Swahili
Swe. Swedish
Switz. Switzerland

T
Taj. Tajik
Th. Thai
Thai. Thailand
Tib. Tibetan
Turk. Turkish
Turkm. Turkmenistan

U
UAE United Arab Emirates
Uigh. Uighur
UK United Kingdom
Ukr. Ukrainian
UN United Nations
Urd. Urdu
US/USA United States of America
USSR Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Uzb. Uzbek

V
var. variant
Vdkhr. Vodokhranilishche (Russian for reservoir)
Vdskh. Vodoskhovyshche (Ukrainian for reservoir)
Vtn. Vietnamese

W
W west
Wel. Welsh

Y
Yugo. Yugoslavia

This index lists all the placenames and features shown on the regional and continental maps in this Atlas. Placenames are referenced to the largest scale map on which they appear. The policy followed throughout the Atlas is to use the local spelling or local name at regional level; commonly-used English language names may occasionally be added (in parentheses) where this is an aid to identification e.g. Firenze (Florence). English names, where they exist, have been used for all international features e.g. oceans and country names; they are also used on the continental maps and in the introductory World section; these are then fully cross-referenced to the local names found on the regional maps. The index also contains commonly-found alternative names and variant spellings, which are also fully cross-referenced.

All main entry names are those of settlements unless otherwise indicated by the use of italicized definitions or representative symbols, which are keyed at the foot of each page.

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